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Characterization of pulp and paper waste water samples using a prototype sensor (Langis Oy)

Study on the corelation of COD with UV-abs and IR-abs.

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<p>Usually online effluent water quality measurement systems are not incorporated in pulp and paper mills. Laboratory analyses are used to measure the parameters like suspended solids, Chemical Oxygen Demand, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD₅), turbidity, pH and conductivity. The quality of the effluent can fluctuate between the timespan of sampling and getting the results. Hence, the real time monitoring and control of the effluent requires using online water quality sensors.</p> <p>In this study, an online water quality sensor (prototype) was used to characterize the effluent from a Finnish pulp and paper mill. The sensor was manufactured by Langis Oy. The prototype was able to measure electrical conductivity, turbidity, total suspended solids, color and total dissolved solids from the given sample. Measurement of these parameters was based on optical phenomenon except for the electrical conductivity.</p> <p>Results showed that the waste water samples could not be characterized solely using the prototype. Laboratory experiments were performed in order to complete, compare and verify the prototype measurements. Infra-Red absorbance and conductivity measurement of the prototype was out of range; hence, recalibration and tuning was suggested to the manufacturer. Laboratory results show conductivity, suspended solids and turbidity show good correlation among each other and help in estimating the level of chemical oxygen demand. Thus, the control system of the mill should be based on the online measurement of these parameters.</p>	
Keywords	online water quality sensor, pulp and paper effluent, Langis Oy, optical measurement, correlation between water parameters

Preface

This thesis is a study about an online water quality sensor (prototype) manufactured by Langis Oy. The study was proposed by Langis Oy and commissioned by Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences in a joint collaboration. The waste water samples required for the study were provided by a Finnish pulp and paper mill (anonymous). Commercial version of the prototype was used in the mill to monitor effluent water parameters.

Langis Oy manufactures wide range of cheap and easy to use water analysis sensors. The company specializes in measurements and solutions for water quality technology. They have been developing their products and technology in close collaboration with customers and research institutes. Two predecessor prototypes had been successfully tested in Helsinki Metropolia UAS prior to this study. This is a follow up study with the third generation prototype. The aim of this study is to characterize various waste water samples from the pulp and paper mill using the prototype.

I am extremely delighted and grateful to everyone who helped me during this study. I would like to show my immense gratitude to D.Sc. Erkki Räsänen for his enormous contribution and guidance in the technical details, experimental work and data analysis. Similarly, I would like to thank senior lecturer Kaj Lindedahl for his support and arranging an easy environment in the school and the lab for the study. I am indebted to Johanna Tikka and Kaisu Malmipuro for their assistance in the lab procedures and experimentations. I would also like to thank Dr. Minna Pannanen-Porkka for the academic guidance.

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List of abbreviations

AD	Analog to Digital
ADt	Air Dry tons
AOX	Adsorbable Organic Halogens
BAT	Best Available Technology
BOD	Biochemical (Biological) Oxygen Demand
CMOS	Complementary Metal Oxide Semiconductor
COD	Chemical Oxygen Demand
EC	Electrical Conductivity
HDMI	High-Definition Multimedia Interface
Hz	Hertz
IoT	Internet of Things
IPPC	Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control
IR	Infrared
IR-abs	Infrared absorbance
IR-sct	Infrared scattered
LED	Light Emitting Diode
N	Nitrogen
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
P	Phosphorus
pH	potential Hydrogen
S	Siemens
SPI	Serial Peripheral Interface
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
USB	Universal Serial Bus
UV	Ultraviolet
UV-abs	Ultraviolet absorbance
V	Volts

1 INTRODUCTION

Presence of liquid water on the surface of earth is the basis for all forms of life. In the present world, water serves mainly for domestic, agricultural and industrial use (UN-Water, 2014). Though abundant, all the water present in the nature cannot be consumed directly. Even clean and good looking water might not be safe for consumption due to the presence of various contaminants and the health risk. Hence, the contaminants in the water like ions, minerals, chemicals and bacteria have to be treated before the intended consumption. The treatment improves the quality of the water and minimize the health risks associated. However, the treatment of water differs based on the quality required for the intended use. Drinking water requires the highest quality standards compared to the water required for the industrial or agricultural use according to the EU's Council Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption (Lenntech, 2016). The waste water produced after the consumption is also treated in waste water treatment facilities in order to release into the nature or to reuse.

It is vital to understand the parameters associated with the quality of water before, during and after any treatment. According to the Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority (HSY, 2015), some parameters assessed for drinking water are alkalinity, fluoride, smell and taste, coliform bacteria, hardness, pH, iron, turbidity and electrical conductivity. Similarly, for the municipal waste water treatment, the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (UWWTD; 91/271/EEC) indicates the performance of any treatment plants is based on five different parameters namely biological oxygen demand (BOD), chemical oxygen demand (COD), total suspended solids (TSS), total Nitrogen (N_{tot}) and total Phosphorus (P_{tot}) (European Environment Agency, 2013).

In order to measure these parameters certain devices or tests are required. Lately water quality sensors are being used for this purpose. Due to the recent advancement in technologies like open-source and Internet of Things, these kinds of sensors are more economical, reliable and easy to use. Langis Oy is one of the companies manufacturing water quality sensors to meet low cost demand along with fulfilling the reliability and compatibility. And this thesis was executed to evaluate one of the prototypes manufactured by Langis.

Langis is a company which specializes in measurements and solutions for water quality technology. It was founded by Erkki Räsänen and Ari Kristol in 2012 in Espoo, Finland (Langis, 2016). The production facility is in Numminen, Finland. The company manufactures wide range of cheap, versatile and easy to use water analysis systems i.e. sensors, intended for water intensive industries like pulp and paper mills, waste water treatment plants and peat producers. (Langis, 2016). Products from Langis offer a combination of industrial and environmental measurement solutions with Internet of Things (IoT), data analysis and digitalized services. This versatile feature of the technology facilitates smart solutions for monitoring, control and automation.

Langis Oy has been developing their products and technology in close collaboration with customers and research institutions. This thesis was also commissioned by Langis in collaboration with one of their customers and Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences as a research institution.

The aims of this thesis were

- Characterization of waste water samples from the pulp and paper mill using the new prototype manufactured by Langis.
- Comparison of online results and lab measurements for reliability.
- Monitoring the performance and checking for any flaws in the prototype during the study period.

Similarly, a sub-question of thesis was, how does the COD correlate with UV-absorbance and IR-absorbance for a pulp and paper waste water sample?

2 THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

Sensor is a device which measures chemical or physical parameters from a given sample. Sensors can also indicate, record and respond to the measurement system depending on the design and flexibility. Water quality sensors are designed to measure parameters associated with water like pH, conductivity, turbidity and suspended solids. These sensors can be applicable for surface water, ground water and industrial water monitoring. The data provided by the sensors can be vital in understanding and protecting the water and environment from pollution.

The prototype used in this thesis can measure electrical conductivity, turbidity, total suspended solids, color and total dissolved solids in the given sample. These parameters are explained in the following chapters

2.1 Electrical Conductivity (EC)

The ability of water or any solution to allow the flow of electric current is known as electrical conductivity. The common unit of measurement is micro-Siemen per centimeter ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$). EC is directly proportional to the concentration of the ions present in the medium. Hence, it can be measured to determine the concentration of salts or inorganic compounds like chlorides, alkalis and carbonates dissolved in the water. Conductivities of the different kind of water is presented in Table 1 (Lenntech, 2016). Total dissolved solids (TDS) can be calculated based on the measured EC. However, the relation varies based on the concentration of the sample (Lenntech, 2016).

Table 1: Conductivities of different types of water

Water	Conductivity
Ultra-pure water	$5.5 \cdot 10^{-6} \text{ S/m}$
Drinking water	0.005 – 0.05 S/m
Sea water	5 S/m

Some important terms related to the measurement of the conductivity of any solutions are explained further,

Conductance is defined as the inverse of the electrical resistance (R) created by the solution between the electrodes. It is represented by the letter G.

$$G = \frac{1}{R} \text{ (Siemens)}$$

Cell constant is defined as the ratio of the distance (d) between the electrodes to the area (a) of the electrodes (Radiometer analytical, 2014).

$$K = \frac{d}{a}$$

where K = cell constant (cm^{-1})
 a = effective area of the electrodes (cm^2)
 d = distance between the electrodes (cm)

2.2 Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

Any salts, minerals, metals, cations and anions which are dissolved in water are known as dissolved solids. Total dissolved solids refer to the combined inorganic and some fraction of organic matter dissolved in water (Oram, 2014). The unit of measurement is milligram per liter (mg/l). As discussed in the previous chapter, TDS and EC can be compared for dilute solution. TDS can also be roughly estimated based on EC using the following relationship (Lennotech, 2016),

$$\begin{aligned} \text{TDS (mg/l)} &= 0.5 \times \text{EC (dS/m or mmho/cm)} \text{ or} \\ &= 0.5 * 1000 \times \text{EC (mS/cm)} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for concentrated solutions where TDS is greater than 1000 mg/l and EC is greater than 2000 mS/cm, the relationship shifts as follows;

$$\text{TDS (mg/l)} = 0.9 \times \text{EC (dS/m or mmho/cm)}$$

And for agricultural and irrigation water, the relationship can be expressed as follows:

$$\text{TDS (mg/l)} = 640 \times \text{EC (dS/m or mmho/cm)}$$

Hardness, scale formation, taste (bitter or salty) and corrosive properties of the water are due to the TDS (Oram, 2014). These properties are based on the types of cations and anions dissolved in the water.

2.3 Turbidity

Turbidity is a measure of the clarity or the degree of loss of transparency of water due to the suspended particulates (Lenntech, 2016). Turbidity is expressed in Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU), Formazin Nephelometric Unit (FNU) and Formazin Turbidity Unit (FTU). It is one of the important parameters to estimate the quality of the water. According to World Health Organization (WHO) turbidity of drinking water should be below 1 NTU in ideal cases and should not exceed 5 NTU. Hence, the lower turbidity, the better the quality of the water. Various factors affecting the turbidity are humic acid, dyes, bacteria, clay, algae, slit, decaying plants and animals, settleable and non-settleable solids. Turbidity also gives some estimation about the total suspended solids (TSS) in the sample.

In this thesis, HI 88713 ISO Turbidimeter and the prototype was used to measure the turbidity from the given samples and the results were processed in NTUs.

2.4 Total Suspended Solids (TSS)

Suspended or colloid particles which are extremely small and cannot be settled by gravity are commonly referred as total suspended solids. It can also be referred as the particles which cannot pass thorough a fine filter of pore size 0.45 micron (μm) from a settled water sample (Oram, 2014). The unit of measurement of TSS is milligram per liter (mg/l). Mathematically,

$$\text{TSS} \left(\frac{\text{mg}}{\text{l}} \right) = \frac{(m_2 - m_1) * 1000}{V}$$

where

m_1 = initial mass of the filter paper (in gram)

m_2 = final mass of the filter paper (in gram)

V = volume of the water sample (in liter)

2.5 Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD)

Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) is the total amount of the oxygen required to chemically oxidize the pollutants (organic and inorganic) present in the given sample of water. The unit of COD measurement is milligram per liters (mg/l). COD consists of the biodegradable organic matter (BOD) and other oxygen demanding materials. COD is also used as an indirect measurement to indicate the amount of contaminants present in any given sample of water (Karki, 2016).

Conventionally COD is measured by determining the left over oxidizing agent such as dichromate or permanganate which are used in excess. This procedure takes couple of hours to complete the analysis and the chemicals used during the analysis possess health issues and safety concerns (Latif & Dickert, 2014). Therefore, various sensors have been designed for quick estimation and determination the COD of a given water sample.

2.6 Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD)

Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) is also known as biological oxygen demand. It is the amount of oxygen consumed by the microorganisms to decompose the biodegradable materials present in the water bodies. The unit of BOD measurement is milligrams per liters (mg/l). The major cause for the BOD are biodegradable organic carbon and ammonia present in the water. The sources of these compounds are domestic and industrial waste including byproducts of plants and animals (YSI, 2016).

Five-day BOD (BOD_5) is the standardized test used to determine the BOD. BOD_5 is the amount of oxygen consumed over 5 days of incubation period under specified standard conditions. Depending on the nature of the water and the national regulations, BOD_7 is also used. BOD_7 is the amount of oxygen consumed in 7 days' period (European Environment Agency, 2015). For comparison BOD_7 can also be converted to BOD_5 using the relation $BOD_7 = 1.16 BOD_5$. It is one of the important water quality parameters in determining the performance of any water treatment facility.

Measurement of BOD is a time consuming practice which also requires experience and skill to achieve reproducible results. To overcome this problem, alternative methods to

estimate the BOD using biosensors also have been explored and reported (Kim, et al., 2003) (Preininger, et al., 1994) .

2.7 Spectrophotometry

Spectrophotometry is the study of the interaction between matter and the light. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (The National Institute of Standards and Technology, 2015) defines spectrophotometry as the quantitative measurement of the reflection or transmission properties of a material as a function of wavelength. This method is used to measure the absorbance or transmittance by measuring the intensity of the light beam passing through a sample. Concentration of a substance in the given sample can also be determined using this technique. Moreover, unknown contaminants in the water can also be determined using this technique. This is a crucial finding in many applications from drinking water to environmental safety and protection (Katrina, 2015).

The devices used in the spectrophotometric analysis is called spectrophotometer. It consists of a spectrometer and a photometer. The spectrometer emits light of desired color or wave length while the photometer detects and measures the intensity of the light. The instruments are arranged in such a way that a liquid or solid sample in a cuvette lies in between the spectrometer and the photometer. Hence the amount of light passing through the cuvette is measured by the photometer (Anon., 2015). Basic structure of the spectrophotometer is illustrated in Figure 1 (Anon., 2016).

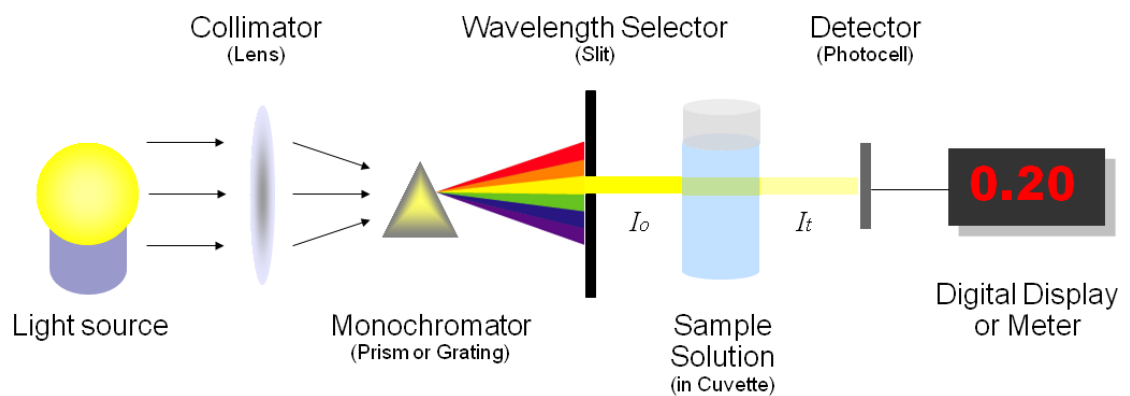


Figure 1: Basic structure of a spectrophotometer

2.7.1 Transmittance

For solid samples, the term transmittance is used in spectrophotometric analysis. It is the ratio between the intensities of light measured with and without the sample (Shimadzu Corporation, 2016).

Mathematically it can be expressed as,

$$T = \frac{I_t}{I_o}$$

where T = transmittance
 I_t = light intensity with a sample
 I_o = light intensity without a sample

2.7.2 Absorbance

For liquid samples the term absorbance is commonly used in spectrophotometric analysis. It is the amount of the light absorbed by the sample solution. It is the logarithmic function of transmittance (Shimadzu Corporation, 2016).

Mathematically, absorbance can be expressed as follows;

$$Abs = \log_{10} \frac{1}{T}$$

where T = transmittance
 Abs = absorbance

2.7.3 Lambert-Beer law

Lambert-Beer law is the linear relationship between absorbance and concentration of an absorbing species (Shimadzu Corporation, 2016). For a monochromatic light, the absorbance is directly proportional to

- the concentration of the solution
- the length of the light path (cuvette)

Mathematically, the Lambert-Beer law can be written as follows;

$$Abs = \log_{10} \frac{1}{T} = \epsilon cl$$

where ϵ = molar absorptivity coefficient (wavelength dependent)
 c = concentration of the sample
 l = length of the light path (cuvette)

Limitations of the Beer-Lambert law

In the real practice the linearity of the Lambert-Beer law is not valid under certain circumstances. The deviations seen in the Lambert-Beer law are of three kinds (Mehta, 2012):

a) Real deviations

These deviations are seen at high concentrations ($>0.01M$) due to electrostatic interactions between molecules. The high analyte concentration can change the refractive index (η) of the solution. The problem with change in refractive index can be corrected by slight modification in the Lambert-Beer law:

$$\text{i.e. } Abs = \epsilon cl (\eta^2 + 2)^2$$

b) Chemical Deviations

These deviations arise due to the certain chemical phenomenon of the analyte molecule like association, dissociation and interaction with the solvent. All these phenomena directly affect the absorption spectrum.

c) Instrument Deviations

These deviations are observed as a result of some common source of errors like mismatched cuvettes, presence of interfering light and most importantly use of polychromatic source of radiation to create monochromatic beam. To minimize the deviations in absorption, measurements are taken at wavelength of maximum absorbance.

2.7.4 Brown color

Color in water is the result of humus, plankton, weeds, industrial waste, peat materials and metallic ions. Natural occurrence of living and decaying organic particles in water exhibits yellowish or brownish color (Christman & Ghassemi, 1966). Hence the brown color is dependent upon the organic materials present in the water. However similar color

pattern can be created by the industrial effluent even with different constituents. With proper methods and tools, it is possible to establish a relation between COD and the brown color. Several studies confirmed that peat water samples show very strong correlation between brown color and COD. UV is the complement for brown color. UV also attenuates with brown color. This is because COD absorbs brown light and brown light relates with UV.

3 PULP AND PAPER MILL (WASTE WATER)

Effluent from one of the pulp and paper mills in Finland was used in this study. The mill produces book papers, improved newsprint grades, magazine papers and business papers. In the European Union, environmental permit system for major industrial installations like pulp and paper mills are governed by the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC, 96/61/EC, codified version 2008/1/EC) directive. The IPPC promotes best available techniques (BATs) among the industrial installations for pollution control technologies, efficient resource and energy consumption as well as prevention of accidents and disturbances.

Pulp and paper industries generate waste water discharges, atmospheric emissions and noise pollution. Since the prototype used in this study can measure only water parameters the focus is in water discharges. A study done for Finnish pulp and paper mills suggests the major parameters evaluated in the waste water discharges of are BOD_7 (kg/ADt), COD_{Cr} (kg/ADt), TSS (kg/ADt), P (kg/ADt), N (kg/ADt) and the flow rate (m^3 /ADt) (Silvo, et al., 2009). ADt is the air dry tons of pulp product where the weight of the pulp product is corrected to reflect the weight that the pulp product would be if the pulp were composed of 10% water and 90% fiber (Queen's Printer BC, 1990). AOX is halogenated organic compounds that are adsorbable by activated carbon. Waste water discharges from paper mills usually do not cover monitoring of AOX even though it is often mentioned. The waste water emissions of Finnish mills are shown in Figure 2.

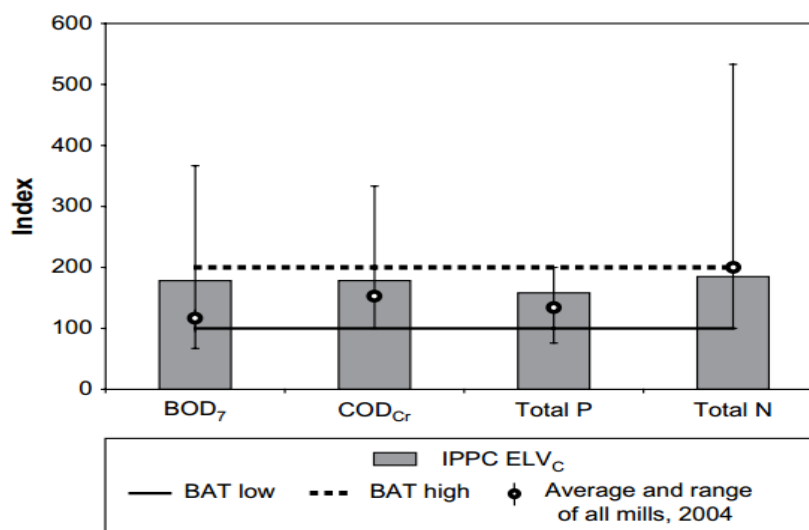


Figure 2: Emissions from Finnish paper and board mills (Silvo, et al., 2009)

4 PROTOTYPE

Among several water quality sensors developed by Lanigs Oy, 3rd generation prototype was used in this study. The working platform of the prototype was Raspberry Pi 2, Model B V1.1 with “Raspbian GNU/Linux 8 (jessie)” operating system. The Raspberry Pi is a cheap and very small sized computer which plugs into a screen via HDMI port and uses a standard keyboard and mouse via USB (Raspberry Pi Foundation, 2016). It works like a normal computer. It is also capable of doing things like browsing the internet, playing high-definition video, making spreadsheets, word-processing, and playing games. The codes required to operate the prototype was programmed in Python Programming Language. And the codes can be found in Appendix 9.

The prototype was complied with the IEC 60529 Ingress Protection Rating of IP68 so it was protected against total dust ingress and was suitable for long term immersion to water (DSM&T, 2016). The prototype operated in five volts (5 V). It measured electrical conductivity, turbidity, total suspended solids, color and total dissolved solids from the given sample. The prototype was programmed such a way that the parameters mentioned were measured in every three seconds. According to Langis Oy frequency of the measurement could be as high as 80 Hz but only 3 Hz was used. It was a combination of several optical sensors to measure parameters based on absorbance and or scattering of the light. Except for the electrical conductivity all other measurements were based on optical readings. All the optical signals were converted into electric signals i.e. voltage and the voltage was converted into digital signals into bits. During the operation of the prototype there was a real-time graph of the readings taken by every sensor. Besides, a data file in “.CSV” format was automatically created on the background when the prototype was operational. A picture of the prototype and a schematic is shown in Figure 3 and Figure 4 respectively. The measurement principles of the various parameters and the application in sensor are explained in the following chapters.

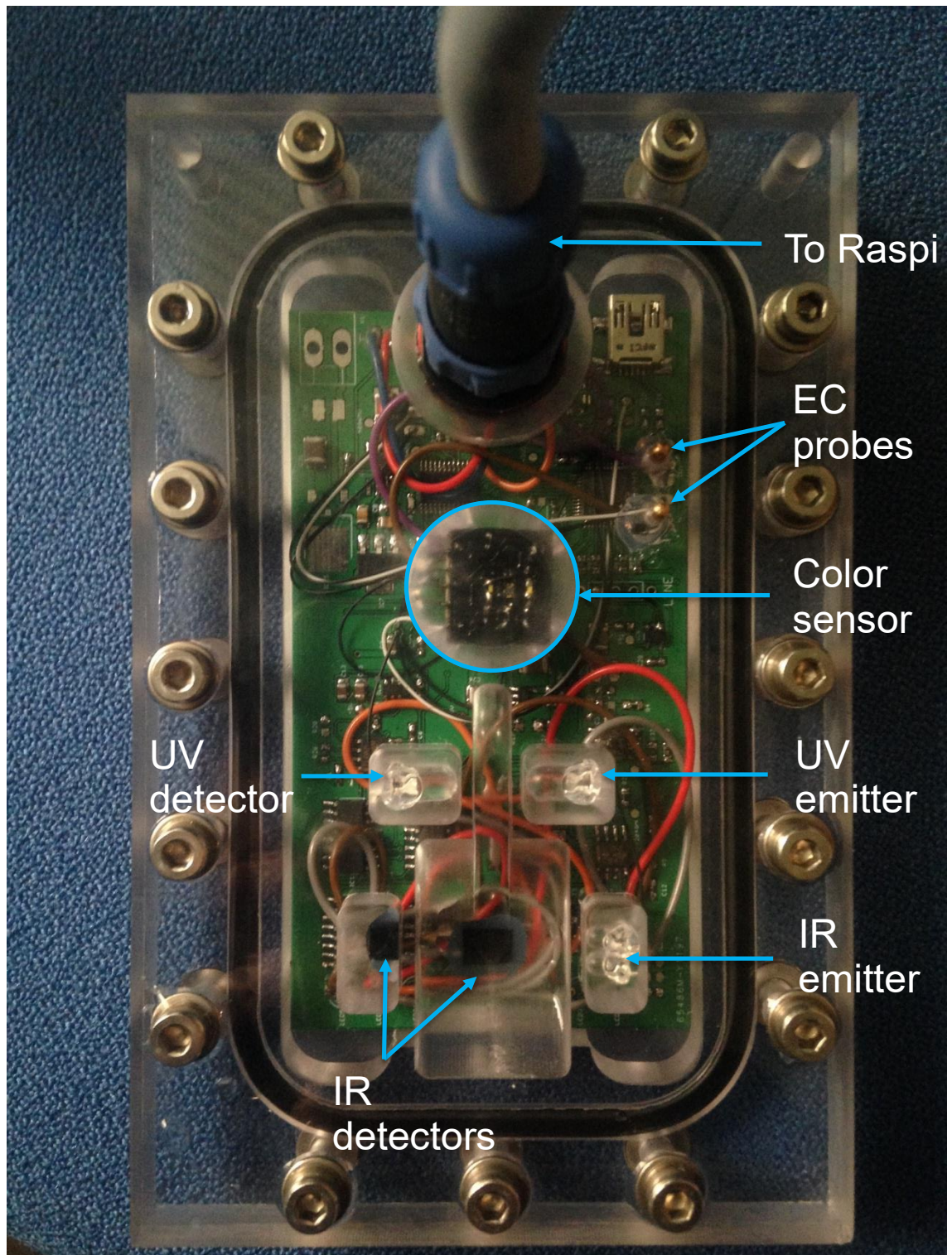


Figure 3: Prototype with basic labels

where κ = conductivity (S/cm)
 G = conductance (S), where $G = 1/R$
 K = cell constant (cm^{-1})

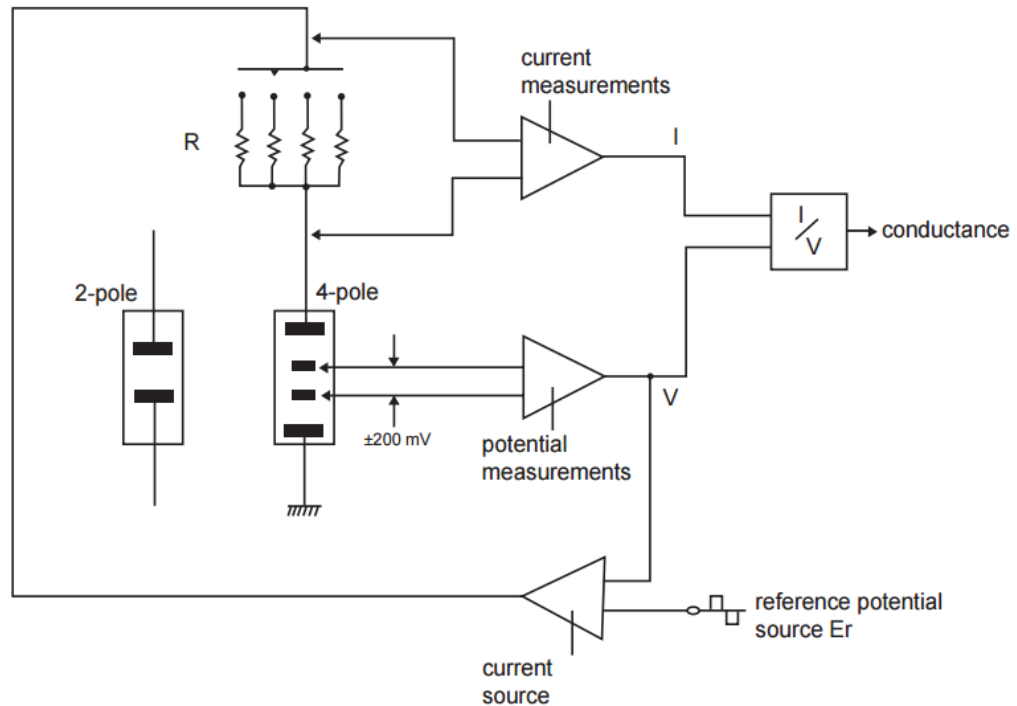


Figure 5: General circuit diagram of a conductivity meter

The prototype had two small protruding electrodes to measure the electrical conductivity of the water samples. It had two pole mechanism instead of four pole as shown in Figure 5. The electrodes measured the potential difference across the water sample. Then the electrical signal generated was amplified to the scale between zero to five volts. The signal was further digitized by the microprocessor of the prototype into 12 bits.

4.2 Ultraviolet (UV) measurement

The prototype was equipped with two UV LEDs. One of them was designed to emit the ultraviolet radiation while the other as a UV light detecting sensor. The LED produced UV radiation of wavelength 405 nm. The light then passes through the sample. The sensor then produced electrical signals in microvolts (μV) based on the intensity of the light received. The signals were then amplified to the scale between zero to five volts (V) by an amplifier. Finally, the amplified electrical signal was digitized by an AD converter into 16 bits digital signal and forwarded to the microprocessor of the prototype.

4.2.1 Ultraviolet Absorbance (UV abs)

Measuring brown color of the sample was based on the absorption of the ultraviolet light. There was a valley in the prototype acting as a light path where the sample could sip inside and hold on in between the LED and the sensor. The length of the light path was five millimeters (5 mm). UV light was not emitted constantly but once in every three seconds. Hence, UV abs was also measured in every three seconds. A circuit diagram for UV measurement is shown in Figure 6.

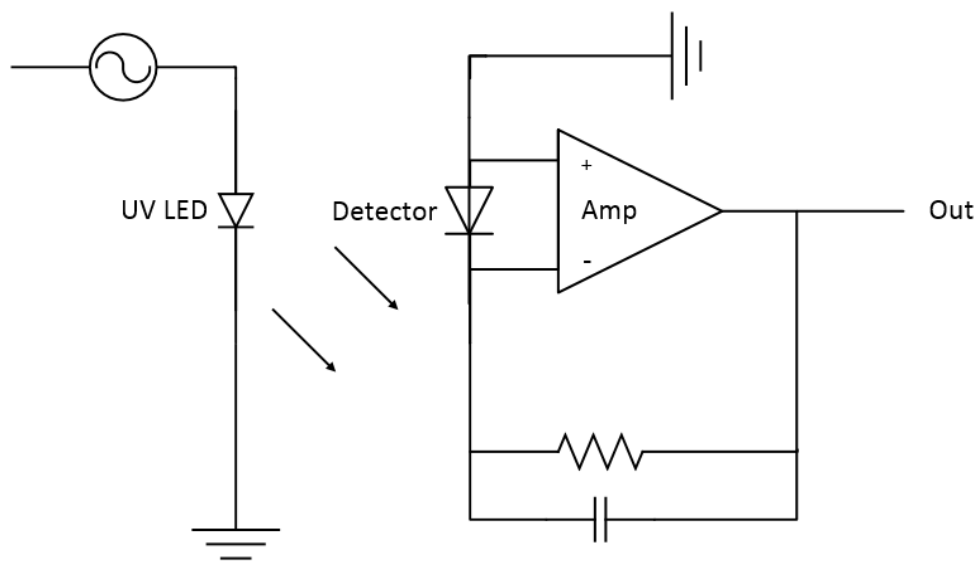


Figure 6: Circuit diagram of UV LED and the detector

It was also discovered that UV detecting sensor emitted light. The differences between the LEDs were in the intensity of the lights emitted and the application. During the experimentation as visible to the naked eyes, emission of a bright blue light from the first LED was followed by a faint blue light from the detecting LED. The detecting LED emitted light in order to measure the junction temperature. In general, the junction temperature is the temperature of a device or a circuit during the given operational conditions (Cypress Semiconductor, 2015). The junction temperature of the LED was measured to compensate the interference due to the ambient temperature because the UV measurement is temperature dependent. The working mechanism of the detecting LED is shown in Figure 7. After measuring the UV absorbance small current is passed through the detector LED which emitted a very faint blue light. The signal was amplified and the junction temperature was measured in order to compensate the interference. Sometimes the junction

temperature can be very high inducing thermal runoff effect which then breaks down the equipment. So the heat has to be taken away from the diode or the equipment.

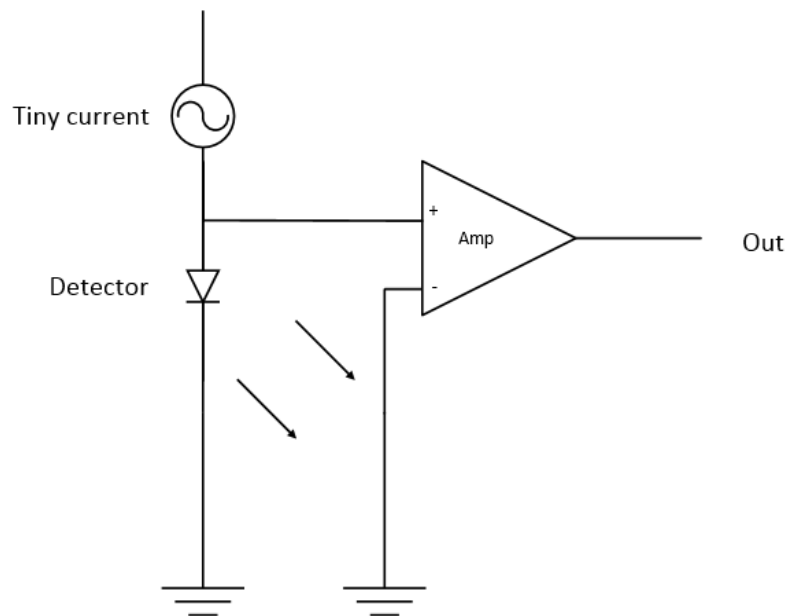


Figure 7: Circuit diagram for junction temperature measurement

4.3 Infrared (IR) measurement

Measurement of the total suspended solids (TSS) and the turbidity was based on the absorption and scattering of the infrared light. For this purpose, the prototype was equipped with a LED and two sensors detecting infrared as shown in Figure 8 (Dahal, 2016), almost the same working mechanism like the UV mentioned in the previous chapter. The LED emitted infrared radiation of wavelength 1100 nm. The light then passes through the sample. The light path was twenty millimeters (20 mm). The sensors then produced electrical signals in microvolts (μV) based on the intensity of the light received. Signals from both sensors travelled in the same line via a multiplexer. The electrical signals were then amplified between zero to five volts (V) by an amplifier. Finally, the amplified electrical signal was digitized by an AD converter into 16 bits digital signal and forwarded to the microprocessor of the prototype.

Unlike the UV LEDs, the light emitted by the infrared LED was not visible to the naked eyes. Similarly, the light path for IR measurement was wider and bigger compared to the UV measurement.

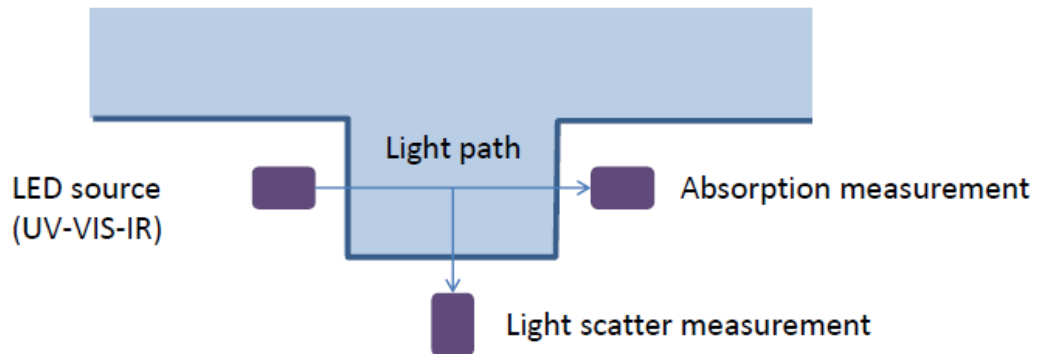


Figure 8: Working mechanism of absorption and scattering of light

4.3.1 Infrared Absorbance (IR-abs)

The sensor located at an angle of 180 degrees with respect to the infrared LED was used to measure the infrared absorbance. This sensor measured the intensity or the amount of the infrared radiation absorbed by the particles present in the water sample. This measurement was used to estimate the total suspended solids present in the given water sample based on the fact that infrared absorbance is directly proportional to the suspended solids.

4.3.2 Infrared Scattered (IR-sct)

The sensors which was at an angle of 90 degrees with respect to the infrared LED was used to measure the scattered infrared. It measured the intensity or the amount of the infrared scattered by the undissolved particles at 90-degree angle. This is a general principle used to determine the turbidity of a given water sample. But it is extremely important to consider the scattering of the light caused by the suspended particles varies with the shape, size, refractive index and composition of the particles (Crittenden, et al., 2012).⁷

4.4 Color

The prototype was able to detect red, green, blue and white lights from the water samples. In order to detect these colors VEML6040 color sensor was used in the prototype. The color sensor consists of photo diodes, amplifiers and analog/digital circuits put together into a single chip using CMOS (Complementary metal-oxide-semiconductor) process (Vishay Semiconductors, 2015). The dimension of the sensor is 2.0 mm (length) x 1.25 mm (width) x 1.0 mm (height). Though not directly related to this study but the most important applications of this sensor is in digital photography.

The sensor works on the phenomenon of back scattering of the white light. At first a LED emits white light, projects to the samples and the back scattered light were again picked up by the sensor. The sensor generates 16 bits of digital data at a time and is directly sent to the microprocessor of the prototype via SPI (Serial Peripheral Interface) bus connection. According to the manufacturer the peak sensitivities of the sensor for red, green and blue light are at 645 nm, 575 nm, and 460 nm respectively as included in Appendix 3 (Vishay Semiconductors, 2015). Colors were not investigated in details; however, the correlation between blue and brown color was studied.

5 MATERIALS AND METHODS

A list of the equipment used during the study is shown in .

Table 2.

Table 2: General equipment used for experiments and measurements

Equipment	Type	Application
Prototype (sensor)	Langis Oy (3 rd generation)	Characterization of pulp and paper waste water sample
Spectrophotometers	HACH LANGE (DR 3900)	Measuring COD concentration of samples
	UV/Visible (Ultrospec 2000)	Measuring absorbance of samples at 405 nm and finding absorbance peak value in UV/ VIS region
	Shimadzu (UV-160)	
Heater	HACH LANGE (LT 200)	Heating the cuvettes with samples
Turbidity meter	HI 88713 ISO Turbidimeter	Turbidity measurement
Conductivity meter	Mettler-Teldo AG	Conductivity measurement
Analytical balance	Mettler (AE240)	Weighing the filter paper
Chemical kit	HACH LANGE (LCK 514)	COD analysis
Oven	Memmert	Drying the filter papers
Glass wares	Beakers, graduated cylinder, pressure filtration setup	Filtration, dilution,
Pipette	Automated	Sampling small volume (> 5 ml)
Fridge	Normal	Sample storage
Lab safety gears	Normal	Personal protection

5.1 Samples

Samples required for this study were provide by a Finnish pulp and paper mill. All together five dispatch of waste water samples were delivered by the company to Metropolia UAS. Each dispatch included five samples with a total of 22 samples from different dates. Volume of the samples from each dates was approximately one liter. The samples

were stored in the fridge. The first dispatch was delivered when the mill was undergoing scheduled cleaning and maintenance. Hence those samples were not analyzed.

5.1.1 Dilution

Dilution of the samples were performed based on the interest of Langis Oy which was in 1:2 ratios for each consecutive sample. All together six dilution series were prepared out of a sample as shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Dilution series

Dilution series	Concentration	Volume of sample	Total volume
1	100 %	800 ml	800 ml
2	50 %	400 ml	800 ml
3	25 %	200 ml	800 ml
4	12.5 %	100 ml	800 ml
5	6.25 %	50 ml	800 ml
6	0 %	0 ml	800 ml

The following equipment were used for the dilution of the sample:

- 1000 ml beakers
- Graduated cylinder (500 ml)

A minimum of 800 ml of the sample in a beaker was required to immerse the prototype and its sensors. Hence 800 ml was chosen as a standard volume for the analysis. Dilution series were prepared one after another from the mother solution but not all together at once because of the limited volume of the sample. Ion exchanged water and normal tap water were used in order to dilute the original sample. The dilution series prepared for turbidity measurement is shown in Figure 9.



Figure 9: Dilution series in decreasing order of concentration

5.2 Online setup

All the experimentations using the prototype was performed in the lab. The dilution series of samples prepared as mentioned in the previous chapter were analyzed. The actual online setup was quite simple. First of all, the prototype was connected to the power and the computer program required to operate the prototype was launched in the Raspi. A brief operational instruction of the prototype is also included in the Appendix 1. 800 ml of samples were then taken in one-liter beaker and the prototype was immersed in the beaker as shown in Figure 10. Several graph plots were observed in the screen in response to the measurement taken. The data were retrieved for further processing and analysis after completing the experimentation.

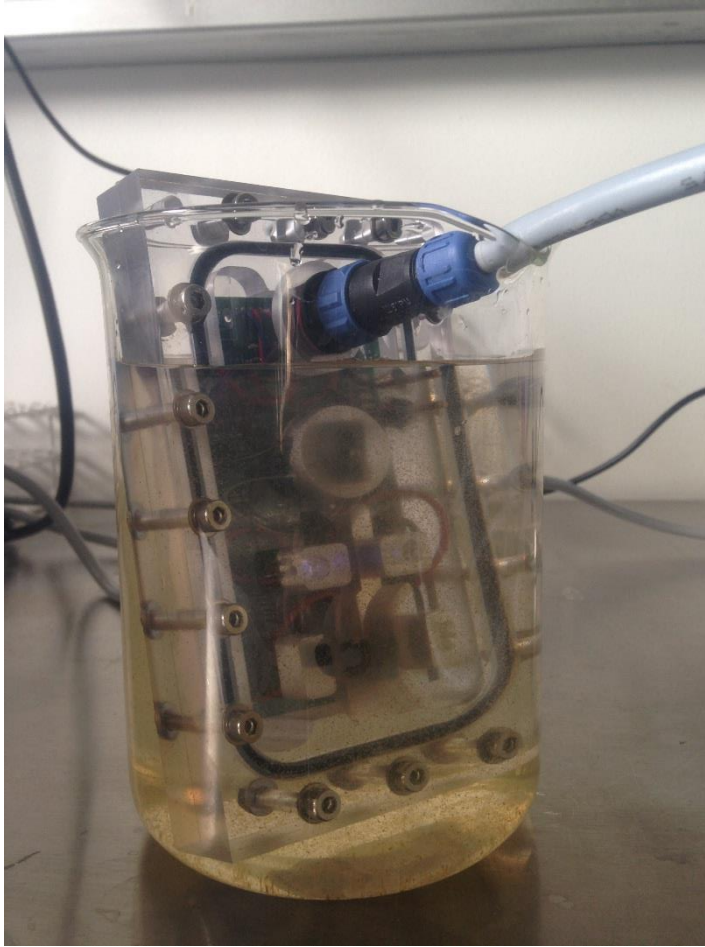


Figure 10: Online setup of the prototype

5.3 Lab experiments

All the experimentations mentioned in this chapter were carried out in the laboratory of Metropolia UAS. Personal and environmental safety was put on the top priority hence lab protocols were strictly followed. Lab engineers were also consulted for any kind of doubts and confusions. Experimentation performed using the lab instruments are discussed in the following sub-chapters.

5.3.1 Total Suspended solids

Pressure filtration method was used to determine the amount of the suspended solids from a sample.

5.3.1.1 *Equipment Required*

A list of the equipment used during the study to determine the suspended solids is presented below:

- i. Millipore filter papers (0.45 μm)
- ii. Flask
- iii. Funnel
- iv. Vacuum pump (tap water)
- v. Metal clamp
- vi. Tweezer
- vii. Crucibles
- viii. Desiccator
- ix. Analytical beam balance
- x. Graduated cylinders

5.3.1.2 *Procedure*

In the beginning samples were diluted to 50 % concentration using ion exchanged water and the mass of the filter paper was weighed. Then the filtration apparatus was setup. The filter paper was placed on the filter head and a funnel on top of the paper. A metal clamp was used to attach and hold the filter head and the funnel together. After the apparatus was secured, a pump (vacuum suction through running tap water) was connected.

The diluted sample was then poured into the funnel and pumping was started. When the filtration was over the apparatus was disassembled. The filter paper was removed using a tweezer and transferred to a crucible. The crucible was then placed into an oven at 103° C for drying. After approximately one hour, the crucible was taken out of the oven. The filter paper was then placed in a desiccator to cool down in a moisture free environment for about half an hour.

After cooling down, the filter paper was again weighed using an analytical beam balance. The mass of the filter paper before and after the filtration were recorded to calculate the amount of suspended solids in the given sample (**Error! Reference source not found.**).

5.3.2 Turbidity

HI 88713 ISO Turbidimeter was used to determine the turbidity in the samples. Measurement principle of this device was similar to the prototype i.e. based on the scattering of the infrared light at 90-degree angle. The device was capable of measuring turbidity of the following ranges,

- 0 - 1000 FNU (Formazin Nephelometric Units)
- 10 - 4000 FAU (Formazin Attenuation Units)
- 0 - 4000 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units)
- 0 – 980 EBC (European Brewery Convention)

A list of the equipment used to as follow;

- i. HI 88713 ISO Turbidimeter
- ii. 10 ml pipette and pipetteerballon
- iii. Cuvettes

5.3.2.1 Procedures

At first the device was calibrated according to the instructions provided by the manufacturer, HANNA instruments. Samples from each dilution series were analyzed. The standard volume of samples required was 10 ml and special cuvettes provided with the turbidimeter. Hence a pipette was used for the précised volume in the cuvettes. The measurements were taken and recorded when the samples from each dilution series was ready.

5.3.3 Electrical conductivity

Electrical conductivity (EC) of the sample were determined using the following equipment,

- i. Mettler-Teldo AG conductivity meter
- ii. Ion exchanged water

5.3.3.1 Procedure

The conductivity meter was calibrated according to the instructions provided before the experimentation. This involved the use of a standard solution having conductivity of 3.17 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$. The probe of the meter was properly rinsed with the ion exchanged water before taking any measurements. Data from each measurement was recorded.

5.3.4 Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD) analysis

In order to determine the COD level in the samples readymade chemical kit LCK 514, (COD cuvette test) of the range 100-2000 mg/l O_2 from HACH Lange was used. This test kit is based on dichromate method with ISO 6060-1989, DIN 38409-H41-H44 standard (HACH LANGE, 2015). Quality certificate with the technical data for cuvette test LCK 514 is also included in Appendix 8. According to the suggestion and interest of Langis Oy, COD of the filtered samples were analyzed rather than the original samples. Following equipment were used for the COD analysis,

- i. Spectrophotometer (DR 3900)
- ii. Heater (HACH LANGE (LT 200)
- iii. LCK 514 cuvette
- iv. Cuvette holder
- v. Automated pipette
- vi. Pipette tip (0 - 5 ml)

5.3.4.1 Procedure

This test was performed with great alert compared to any other experimentation during this study. The LCK 514 kit was labelled as corrosive and toxic. Hence the safety data sheet was assessed before the experimentation (HACH LANGE, 2005). The risk and the

safety statements associated with the chemicals in the test kits are presented in Table 4.

Table 4: Risk and Safety statements of LCK 514 COD Cuvettes

R phrases	S phrases
33,35,45,46,60,61,23/24/25,42/43,52/53	53,26,45,36/37/39

Standard procedure set by HACH LANGE was followed to determine the COD of the given sample. At first the sediment in the cuvette was brought into suspension by inverting a few times. The lid was opened and 2 ml of sample was added into the cuvette using an automated pipette. The lid was put back and the cuvette was inverted once again. After cleaning from outside the cuvette was placed into a thermostat heater for two hours at 148 °C. When the digestion was completed the hot cuvette was removed carefully and invert twice. Then the cuvette was allowed to cool to room temperature. Evaluation was carried out when the sediment was completely settled down. The cuvette was cleaned from the outside and evaluated in the spectrophotometer (DR 3900). The barcodes in the cuvette made the measurement in the spectrophotometer automated. The kit was handled and stored properly during and after the experiment.

5.3.5 Spectrophotometric analysis

Shimadzu (UV-160) UV-Visible Recording and UV/Visible (Ultrospec 2000) spectrophotometers were used in this study. The basic difference between these two spectrophotometers were in the number of light beams used. Shimadzu had two light beams, each for reference and the sample. While Ultrospec 2000 had only one light beam. Similarly, Shimadzu (UV-160) could analyze only three sample at a time but Ultrospec 2000 could analyze five at a time. Moreover, Ultrospec 2000 was computer operated, easy to use and newer version than Shimadzu. Hence, Ultrospec was used more often than Shimadzu but this decision was not based on the performance or the accuracy of these instruments. The main aim of using these instruments were,

- Scanning the samples in whole UV and VIS region to detect the absorbance peaks
- Determining absorbance of the samples at a specific wavelength

Initially Shimadzu spectrophotometer was used to analyze few samples for the peak absorbance values in the whole ultraviolet and visible region. Absorbance at the specific wavelength of 405 nm for the samples were also analyzed. Ion exchanged water was taken as the reference.

Ultrospec was used later in the experimentation to do the same task but mostly for the filtered samples. All together 13 filtered samples were analyzed using the same technique. Dilution series of a milk sample were also analyzed using this spectrophotometer.

6 RESULTS

Parameters observed during this study were based on the interest of the pulp and paper mill and the application of the prototype. This chapter consists of the major findings from the laboratory analysis and the measurements using the prototype in order to characterize the effluent from the pulp and paper mill.

6.1 Laboratory Analysis

Results produced from the lab analysis are included in this chapter. All together 22 samples starting from the date 22.02.2016 till 29.03.2016 were analyzed. Four different parameters, TSS, COD, turbidity and EC were measured for each sample. The corresponding data table is included in Appendix 4.

6.1.1 Total suspended solids (TSS)

Two replicates from each samples were prepared for the laboratory measurement of the TSS. The result shown in Figure 11 is the average value of two replicated measurements.

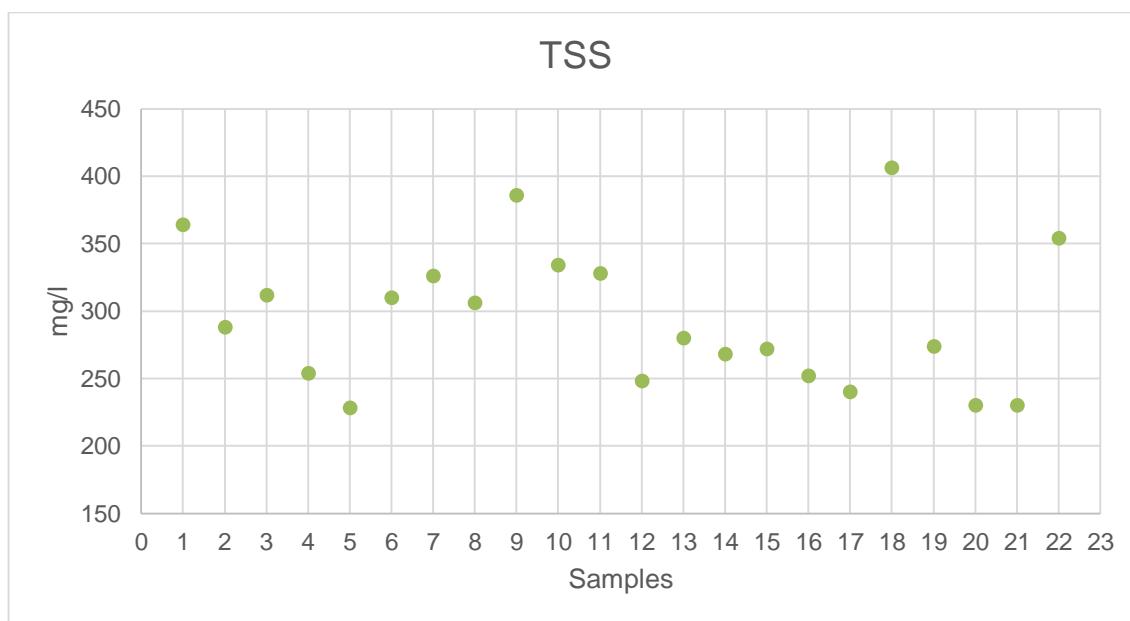


Figure 11: Laboratory measurement of TSS

6.1.2 COD Analysis

COD for each samples were analyzed using the LCK 514 chemical kit in two replicates. The average COD level of the samples is shown in Figure 12.

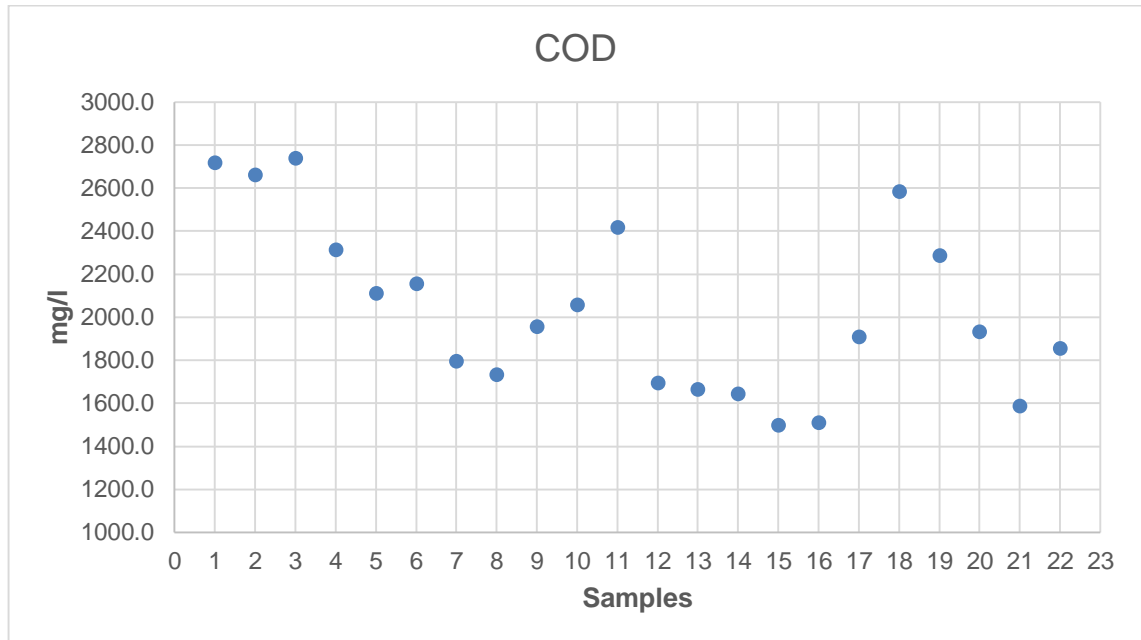


Figure 12: Laboratory analysis of COD

6.1.3 Turbidity

Figure 13 shows the turbidity of each samples. The result is the average value of two replicated measurements.

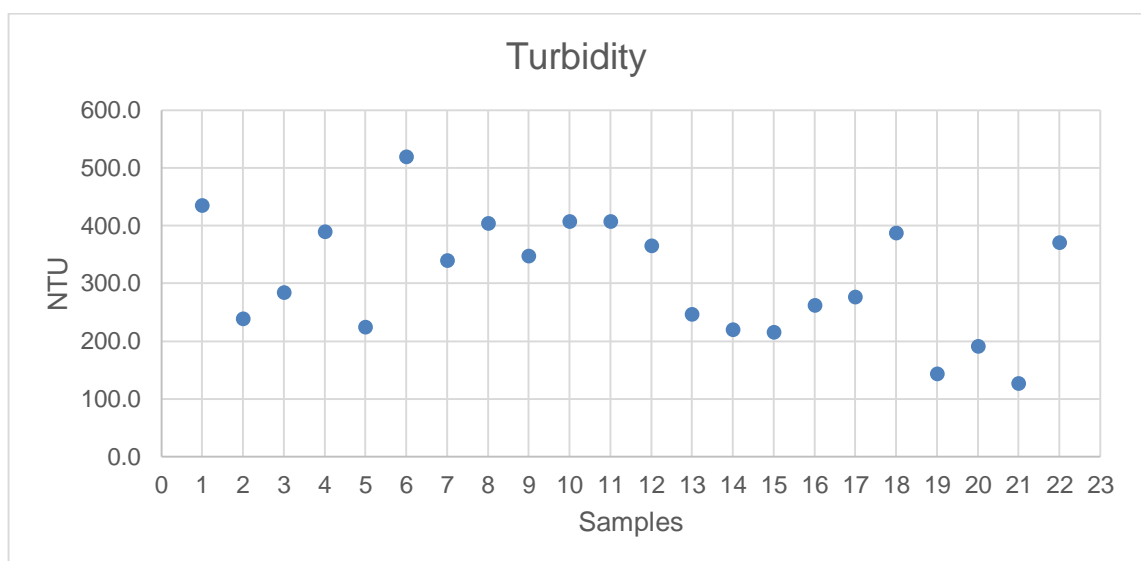


Figure 13: Laboratory measurement of Turbidity

6.1.4 Electrical Conductivity

Figure 14 shows the electrical conductivity of each samples. Like all other parameters the result for EC is also the average value of two replicated measurements.

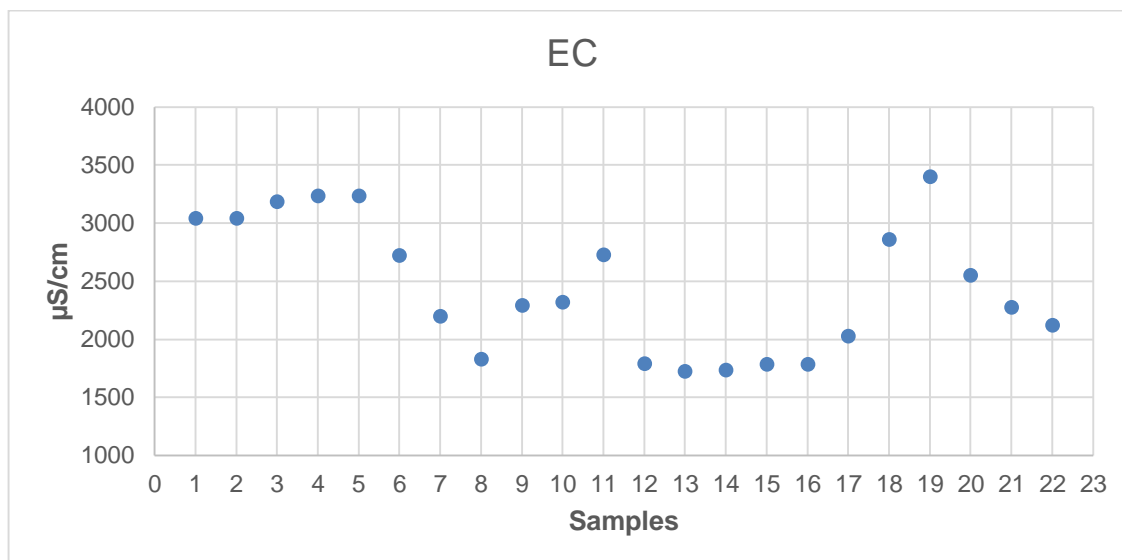


Figure 14: Laboratory conductivity measurement

6.2 Prototype measurement

This chapter consists of the results produced by the prototype. The prototype produced the measurement results as a graphical plot and a file with the actual data points. An example of the online graphical plot of a dilution series is included in Appendix 2.

Like the previous chapter, the same 22 samples starting from the date 22.02.2016 till 29.03.2016 were measured simultaneously using the prototype and the results are presented in following graphs. Instead of making the replicated measurements the dilution series of each samples were measured using the prototype. Vertical axes in all the graphs are in bytes while the horizontal axes correspond to the sample dates in numerical order. The corresponding data table is included in Appendix 5.

6.2.1 UV Absorbance

UV radiation absorbed by each samples (100 % concentrated) is shown in Figure 15. The result is the average value of the repetitive measurements taken by the prototype during the sample analysis.

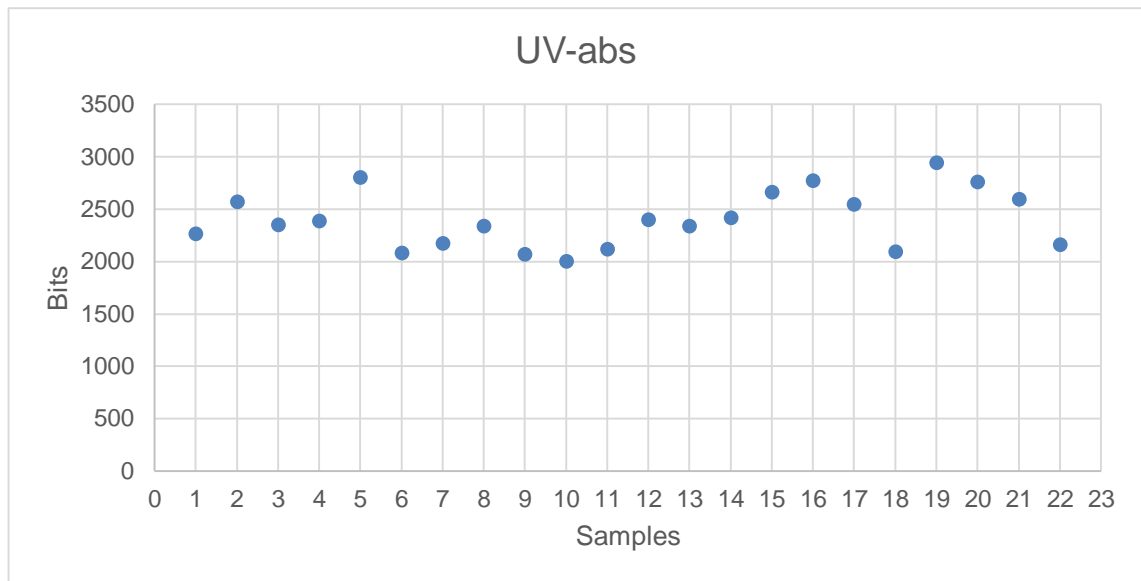


Figure 15: Measurement of UV absorbance using the prototype

6.2.2 Infrared (IR) scattered

IR radiation scattered by the particles in each samples (100 % concentrated) is shown in Figure 16. The result is the average value of the repetitive measurements taken by the prototype during the sample analysis

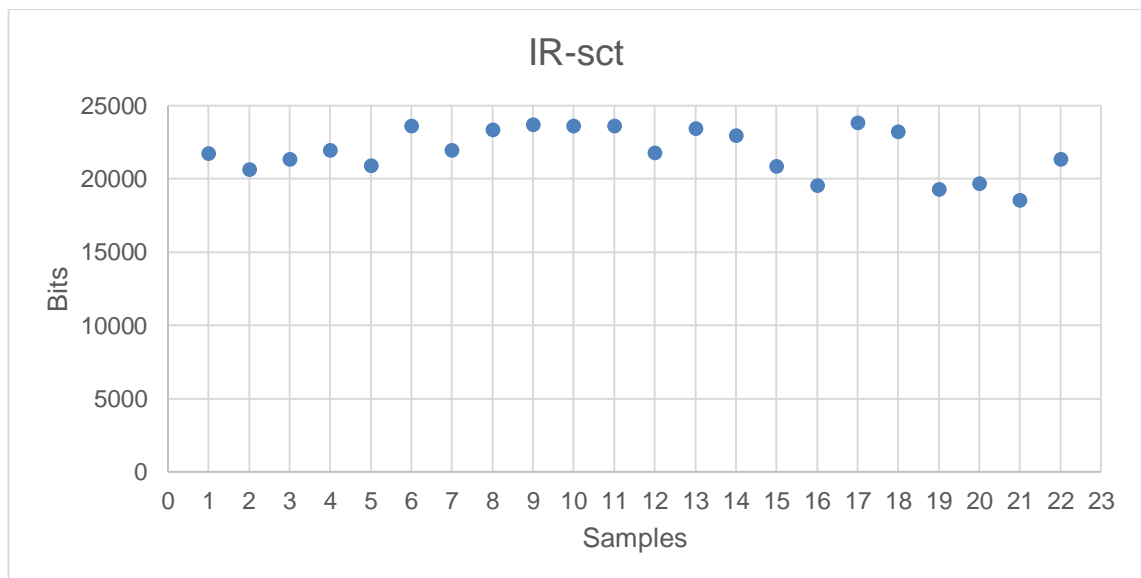


Figure 16: Measurement of IR scattered using the prototype

6.2.3 Infrared Absorbance

IR absorbed by the particles in each samples (100 % concentrated) is shown in Figure 17. The result is the average value of the repetitive measurements taken by the prototype during the sample analysis.

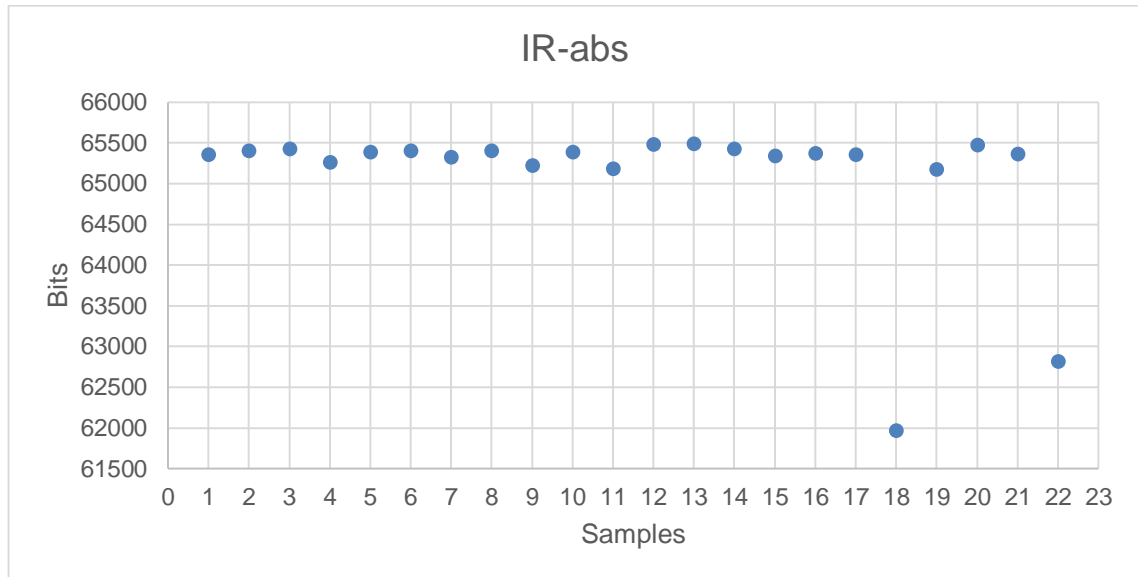


Figure 17: Measurement of IR absorbance using the prototype

6.2.4 Conductivity

Measurement of EC of each samples (100 % concentrated) is shown in Figure 18. The result is the average value of the repetitive measurements taken by the prototype during the sample analysis.

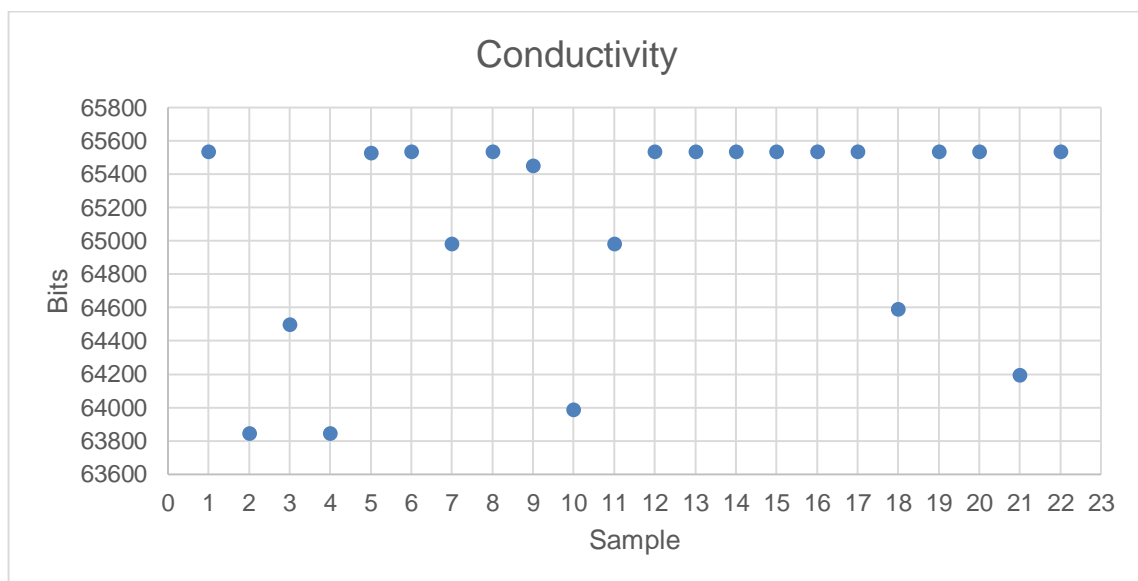


Figure 18: Conductivity measurement using the prototype

6.2.5 RGBW

Measurement of the color of each samples (100 % concentrated) is shown in Figure 19. Four different colors, red (R), green (G), blue (B) and white (W) were measured by the prototype. The corresponding results of each samples are put together in the same graph. The result is the average value of the repetitive measurements taken by the prototype during the sample analysis.

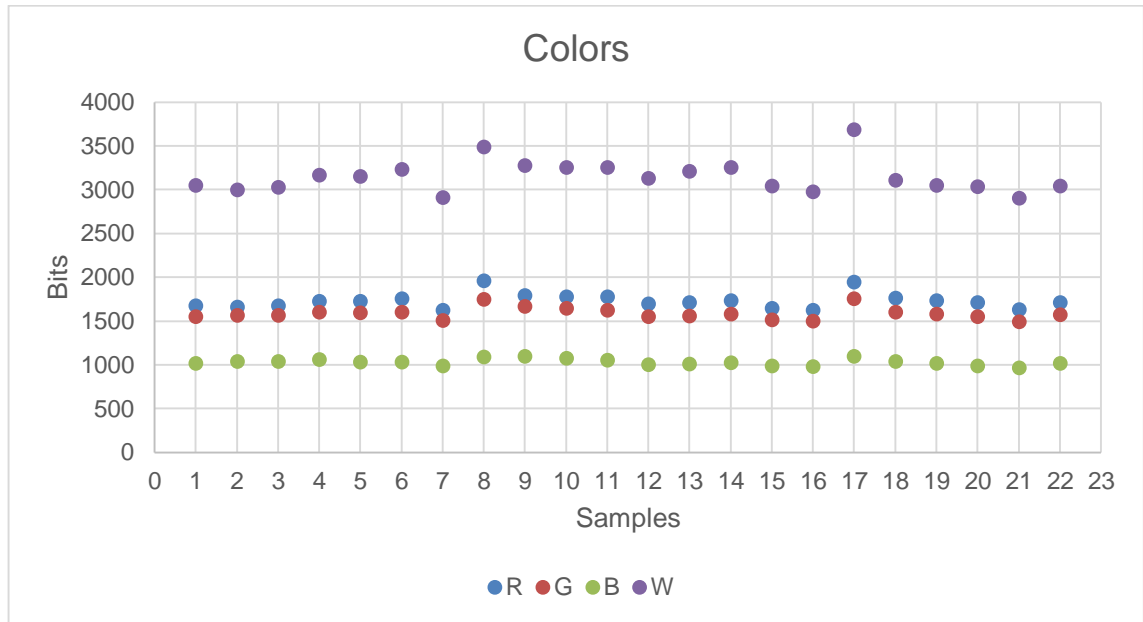


Figure 19: Color measurement using the prototype

7 ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter the results are further analyzed to check and establish relation between the parameters measured during the study.

7.1 Laboratory results

The normalized over view of the parameters measured in the laboratory as shown in Figure 20 indicated EC and COD have strong correlation. Similarly, some correlation is observed between TSS and turbidity. The points are connected with a solid line for easy visual detection of correlation.

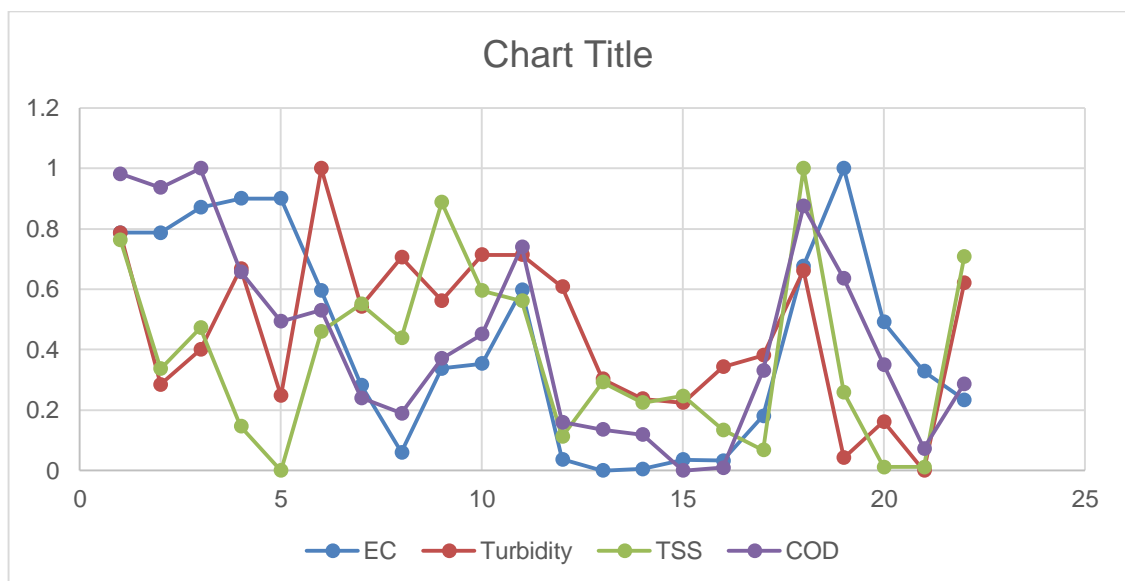


Figure 20: Normalized overview of the laboratory measurement

The graph shown in Figure 21 confirms there is a strong correlation between electrical conductivity and COD.

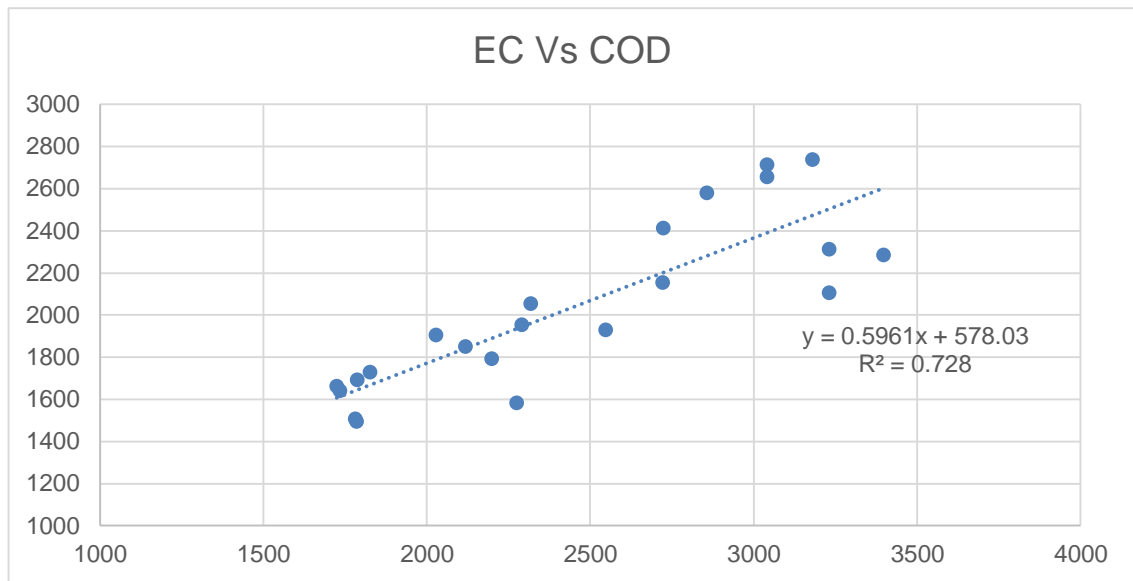


Figure 21: Correlation between EC and COD

Similarly, the graph shown in Figure 22 confirms there is a nice correlation between TSS and turbidity though not as strong as between EC and COD.

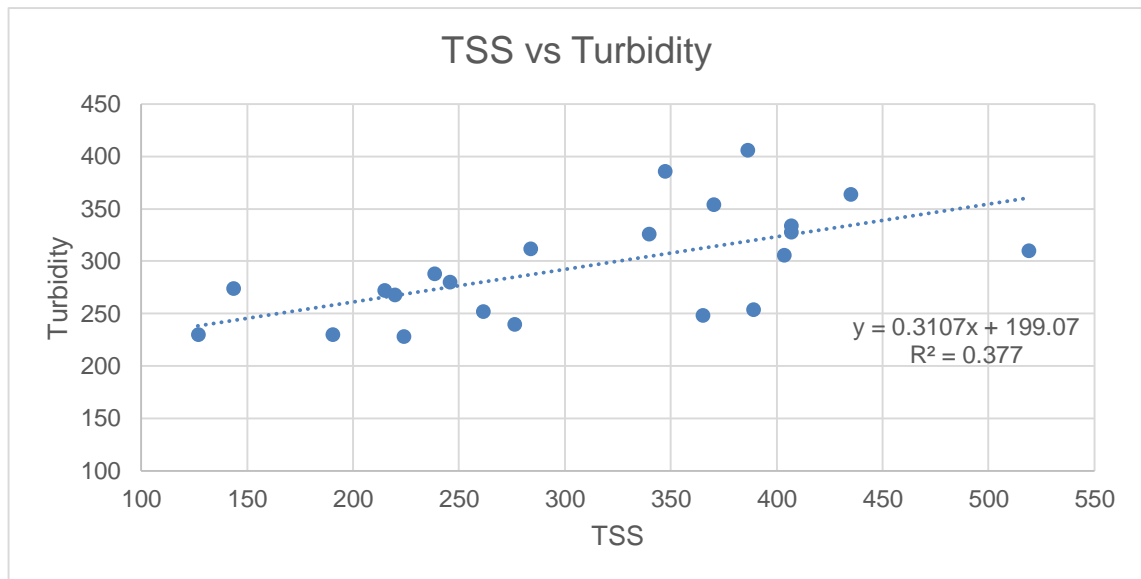


Figure 22: Correlation between TSS and Turbidity

These observations are also valid with the existing knowledge that turbidity is used for approximation of TSS (in addition to IR abs) and conductivity is sometimes used for COD estimation (Räsänen, 2015).

7.2 Prototype measurement

Response of the prototype was assessed by the calibration curve method at various dilution for each sample. Out of 22 samples only one sample from the date 01.03.2016 was chosen to be discussed in this chapter. The choice of this particular sample was a random selection.

The UV absorbance measurements show a nice linear fit with respect to each dilutions of the sample. The corresponding UV absorbance measurement is shown in Figure 23.

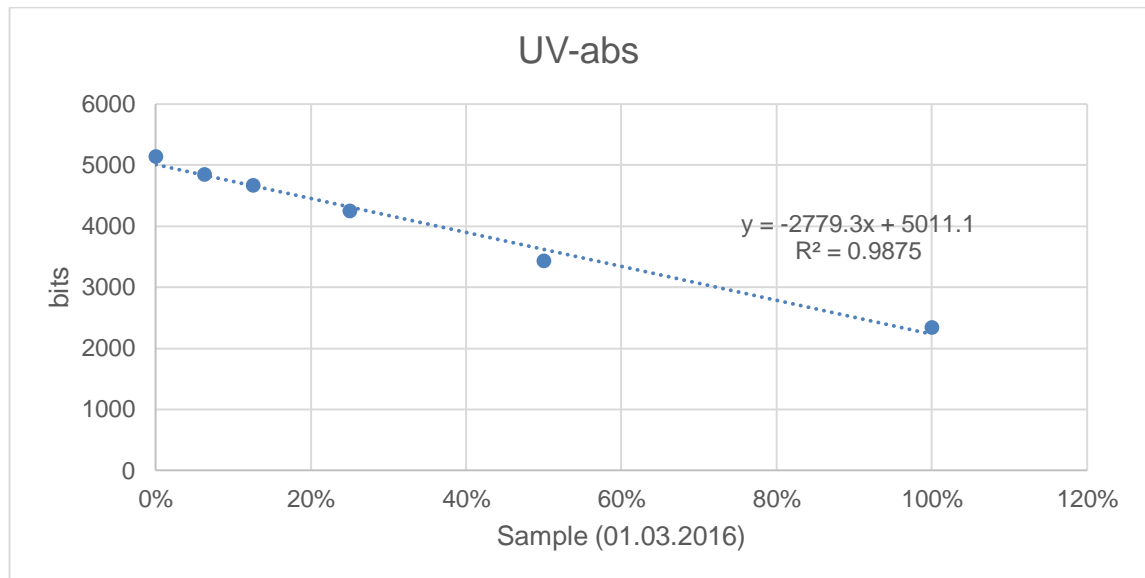


Figure 23: UV-abs measurement of a dilution series

The IR scattered measurements also show a nice linear fit with the dilution series of the sample. The corresponding IR scattered measurement is shown in Figure 24.

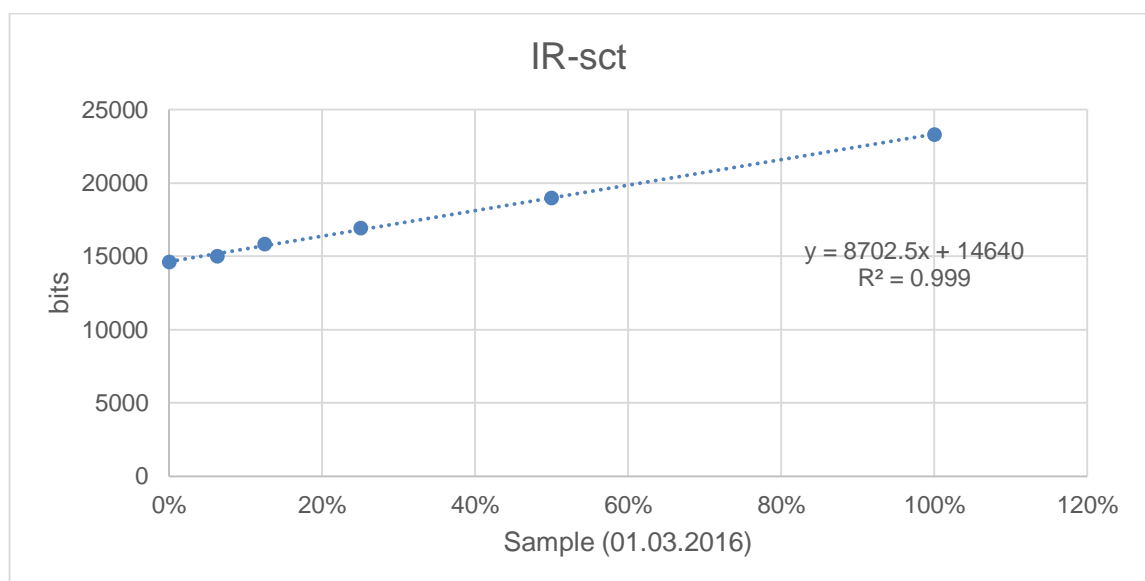


Figure 24: IR-sct measurement of a dilution series

Unlike UV-abs and IR-sct measurements IR absorbance measurements do not show any proper response with respect to the dilution series. IR-abs measured for the sample at various dilutions is shown in Figure 25. IR-abs had lots of measurement noise.

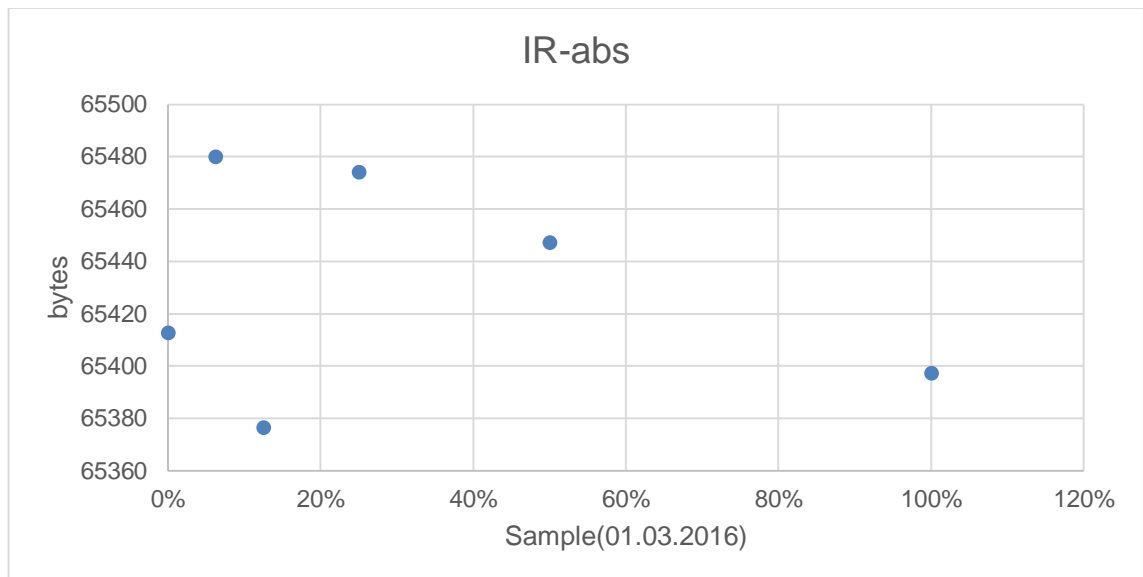


Figure 25: IR-abs measurement of a dilution series

The response of the conductivity measurement is similar to the IR-abs. The conductivity measured for the dilution series of the sample is shown in Figure 26. The response of the measurement suffered a lack of fit.

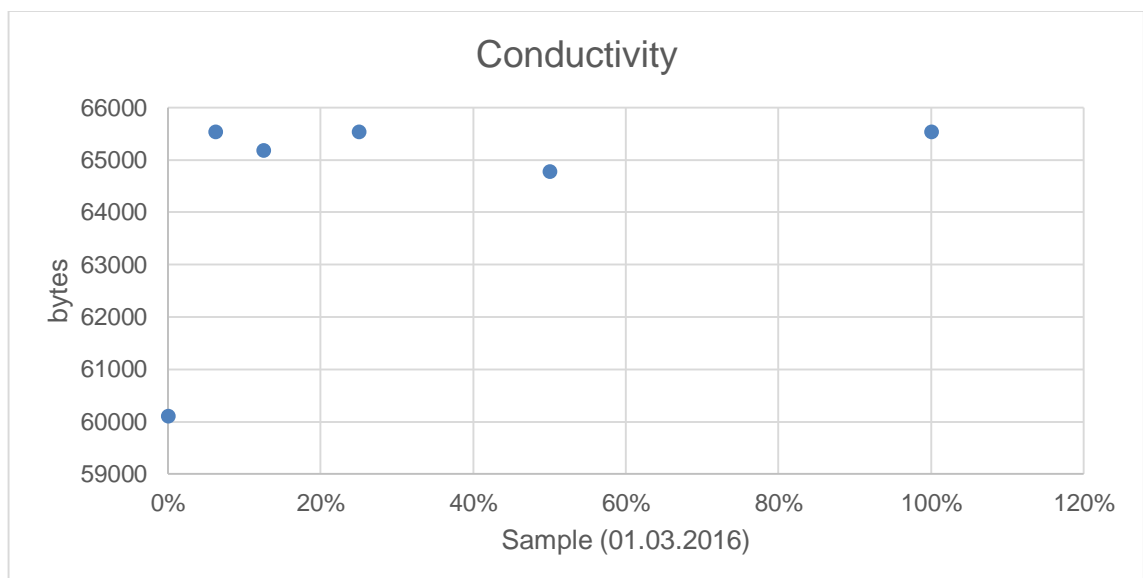


Figure 26: Conductivity measurement of a dilution series

Exponential or linear relationship for IR-abs or conductivity vs concentration can be observed depending upon the diluting agent. But these results show a lot of measurement noises.

7.3 Comparison between the laboratory and the prototype results

Depending upon the parameters either a specific or a group of samples were chosen for the comparison. Parameters with a linear or good response from the prototype as discussed in the previous chapter are further compared in this chapter. All the comparisons are based on the normalized data values.

Samples from the 5th dispatch were used to compare the UV-abs results between the lab and the prototype measurement. The measurement scale of UV-abs in the prototype and the spectrophotometer was alternating or upside down compared to each other. Hence the data from the prototype was altered into the same scale for ease in the result comparison. The comparison UV-abs measurement is shown in Figure 27.

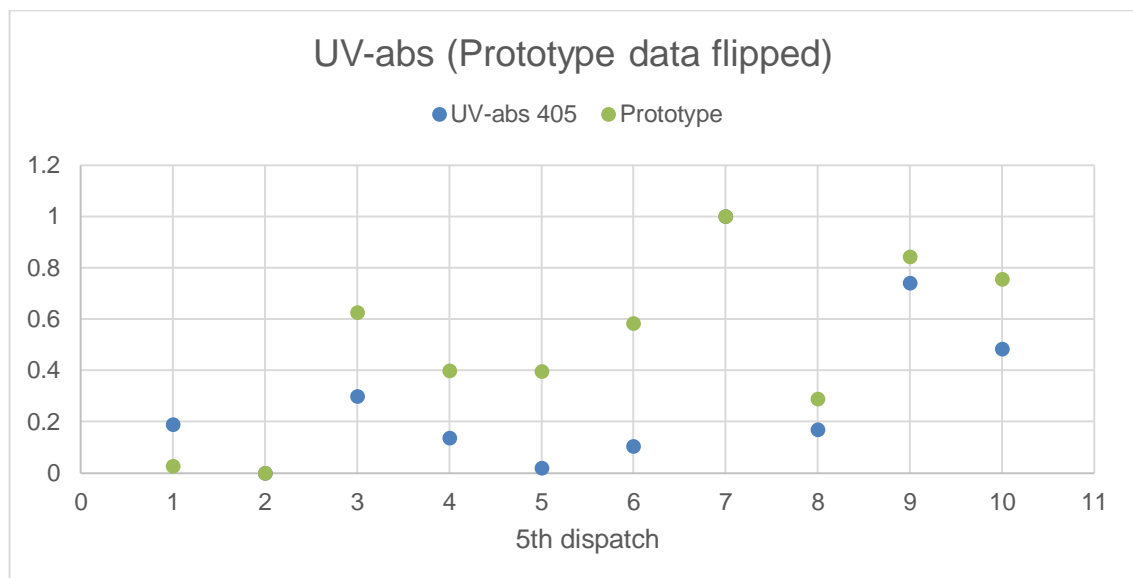


Figure 27: Comparison between lab and prototype UV-abs measurement

UV-abs between the prototype and the lab measurement is plotted in Figure 28. The plot is based on the samples from the fifth dispatch each with two replicates. And the correlation yielded is good. However, this is not the case in other dispatches. Due to the variation of the sample quality during the time span there are much higher deviations. Comparison of samples from all dispatches is included in Appendix 7.

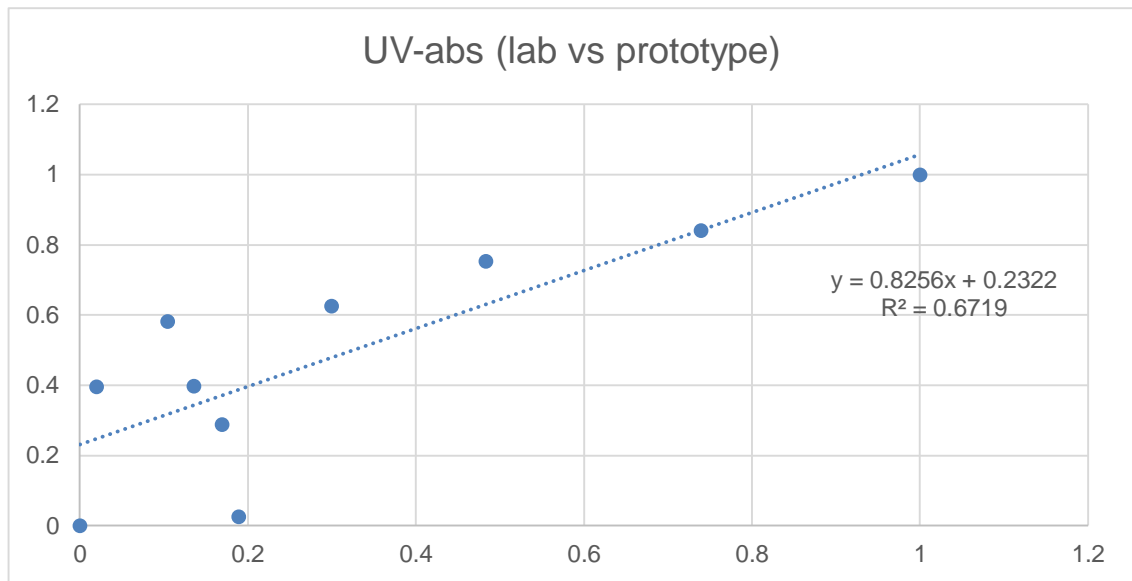


Figure 28: Correlation between the lab and the prototype UV-abs

For the comparison of IR-abs, turbidity and conductivity was done using the sample from the date 01.03.2016.

IR-abs from the prototype was compared with the laboratory measured TSS value. TSS was measured for only 100 % concentrated sample so for the rest of the dilution series theoretical value of TSS was used. The normalized data compared for IR-abs vs TSS measurement is shown in Figure 29.

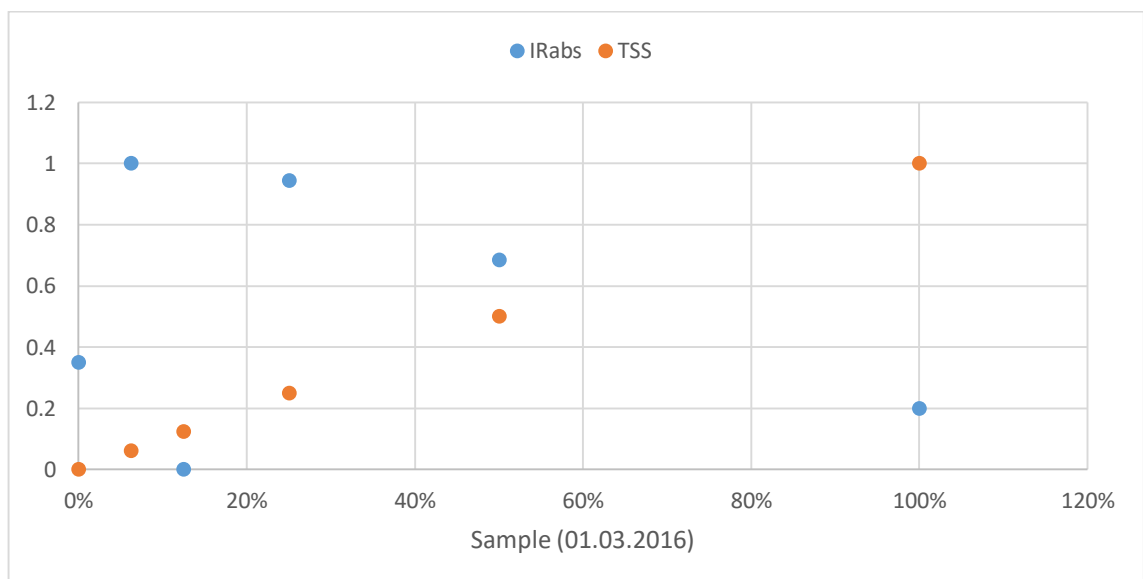


Figure 29: Comparison between IR-abs and TSS

IR-sct from the prototype was compared with the laboratory measured turbidity value. Unlike TSS, turbidity was measured for all dilution series. Hence the comparison was based on the actual measured values. The normalized data compared for IR-sct and turbidity measurement is shown in Figure 30.

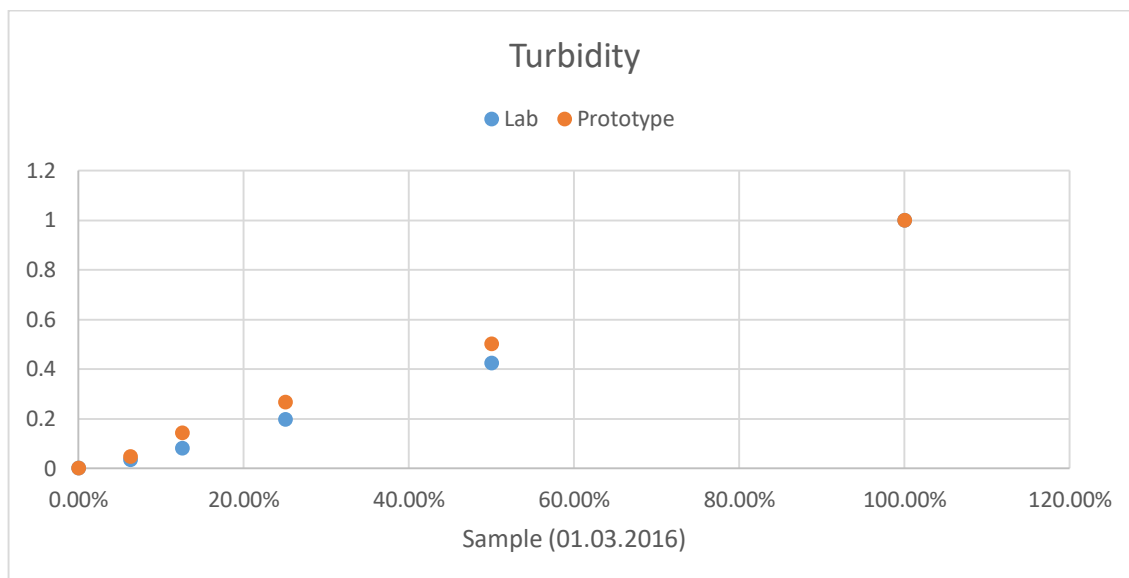


Figure 30: Comparison of lab and prototype turbidity measurement

Similar to the turbidity measurement, conductivity was measured for all the dilution series. Figure 31 shows the normalized comparison between lab and the prototype conductivity measurement.

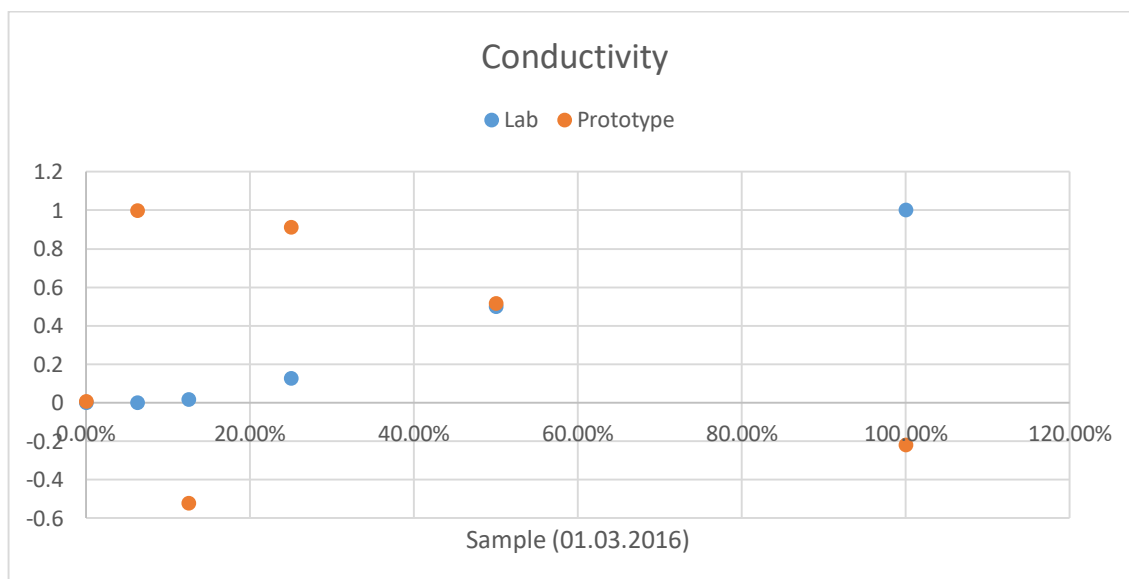


Figure 31: Comparison of lab and prototype Conductivity measurement

The outliers in the results indicate that IR-abs and conductivity measurements of the prototype are out of range.

7.4 Comparing online data from the mill with the lab measurement

In this chapter online data from the mill is compared with the laboratory measurements. The comparison was made to observe the correlation between the lab measured parameters (TSS, Turbidity, EC and COD) with the mill's online measured parameters (UV-abs, IR-abs and IR-sct). Due to a maintenance issue in the mill only 16 samples from 29.02.2016 till 29.03.2016 are compared. The measurements were overlaid with each other by matching the exact timestamps i.e. time of the online measurement coincides with the time when the sample was taken. All the data were normalized for ease in comparison. The raw data from the mill is included in Appendix 6. Figure 32 is the normalized over view of first set of the parameters expected to correlate with each other. The points are connected with a solid line for easy visual detection of correlation.

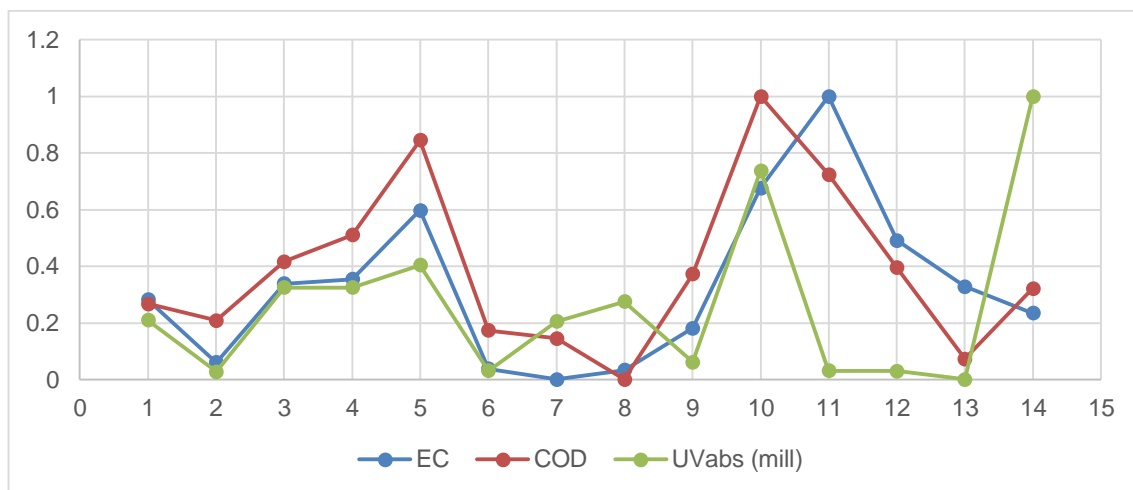


Figure 32: Normalized comparison of laboratory EC and COD with UV-abs (mill)

The graphs in Figure 33 and Figure 34 indicate that there is a better correlation of UV-abs with COD than with EC. However, the correlation between UV-abs and COD is very weak.

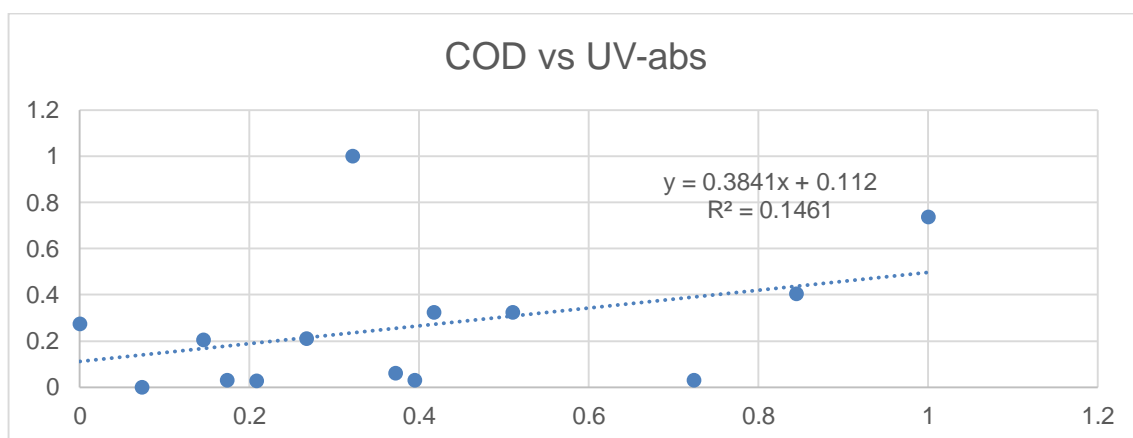


Figure 33: Correlation of laboratory COD and UV-abs (mill)

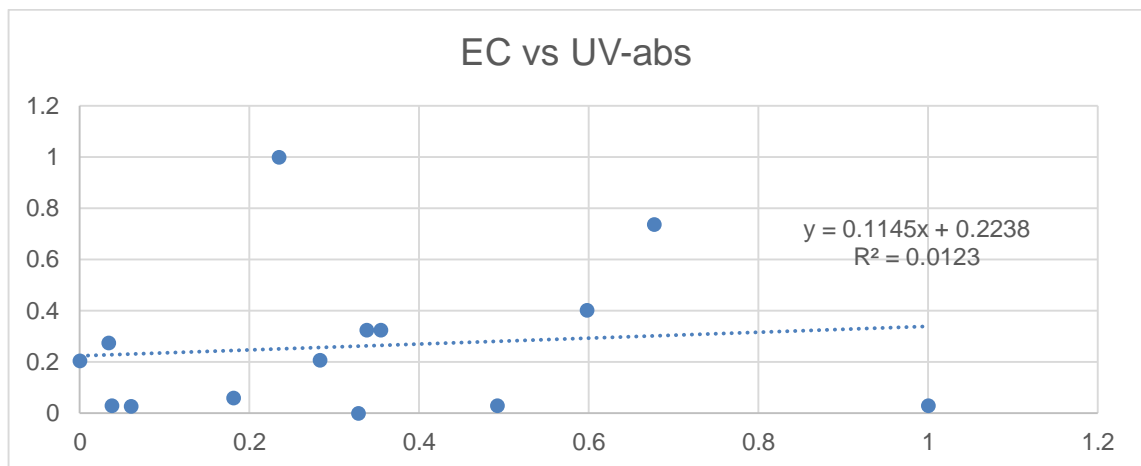


Figure 34: Correlation of laboratory EC measurement and UV-abs (mill)

This is a classical case where correlation can be observed visually but not statistically. This issue is observed due to the deviation in the data. Hence simple correlation analysis is not adequate in this case. Deviation is good some days but bad on other days hence the correlation varies from day to day. Principle Component Analysis (PCA) or Partial Least Square (PLS) modeling is required to analyze the variation in details.

Figure 35 is the comparison of the second sets of the parameters, measured in the lab and the online measurement (from the mill) which are expected to have some correlation. The points are connected with a solid line for easy visual detection of correlation.

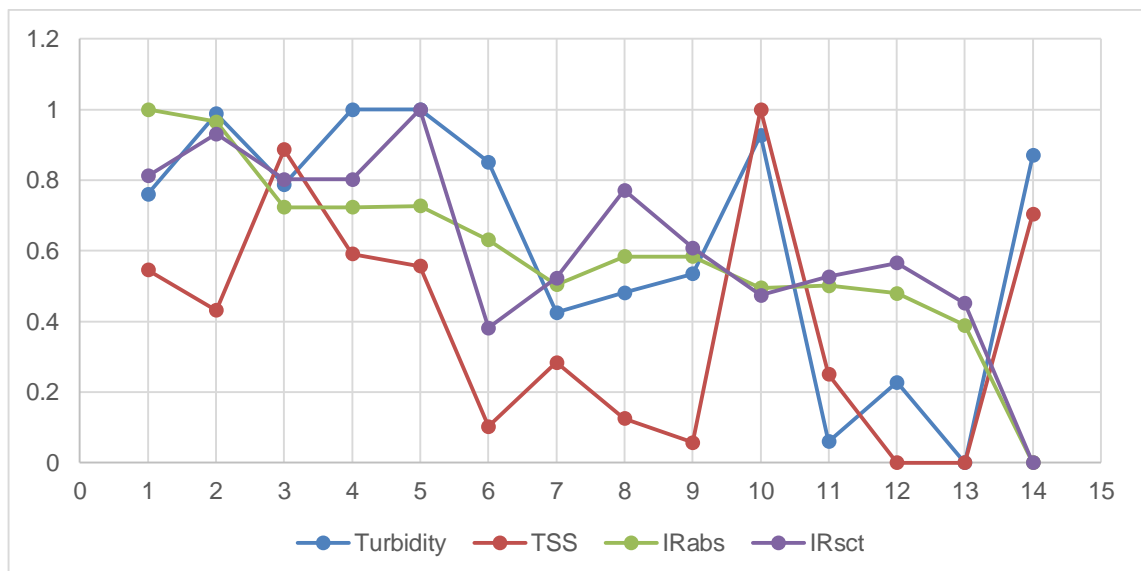


Figure 35: Comparison of (lab) turbidity and TSS with (mill) IR-abs and IR-sct

Unlike expected the laboratory turbidity and TSS measurement did not show any good correlation with IR-abs and IR-sct. Figure 36, Figure 37, Figure 38 and Figure 39 indicate IR-abs and IR-sct have better correlation with turbidity compared to TSS.

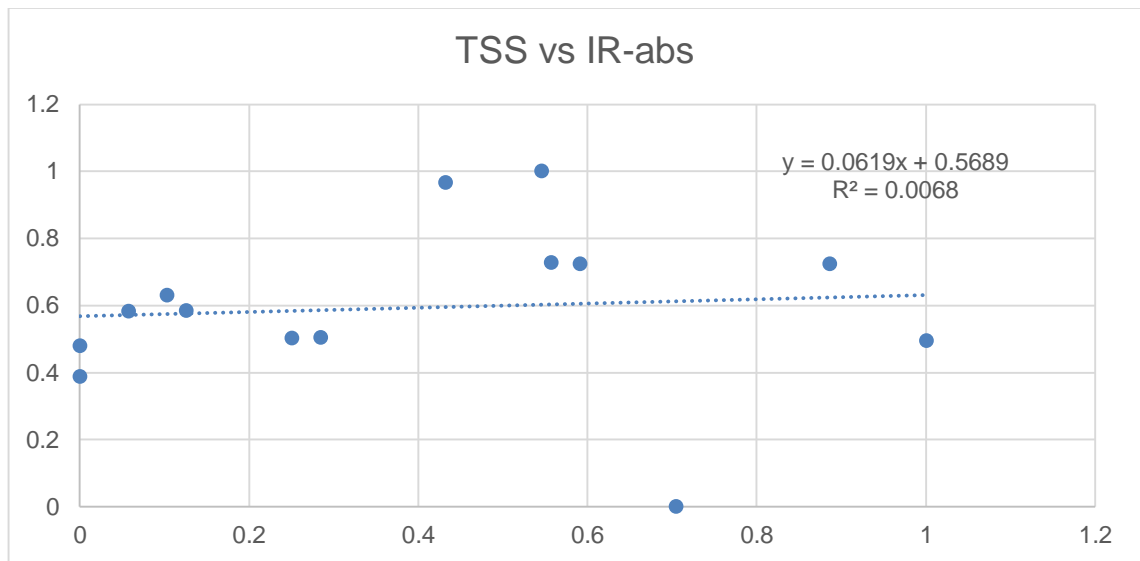


Figure 36: Correlation between TSS(laboratory) and IR-abs(mill)

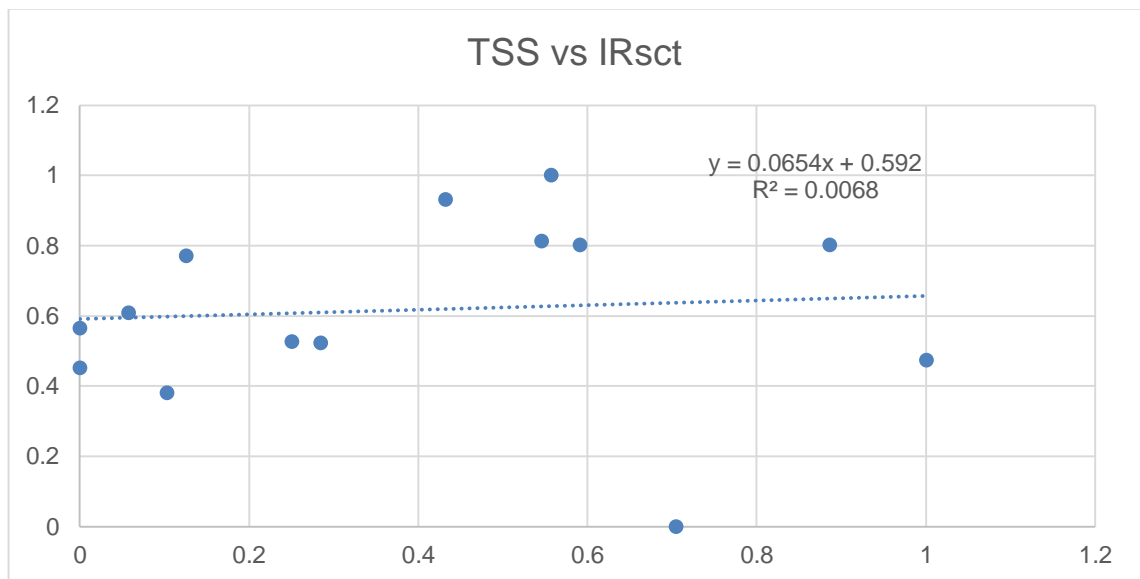


Figure 37: Correlation between TSS (laboratory) and IR-sct(mill)

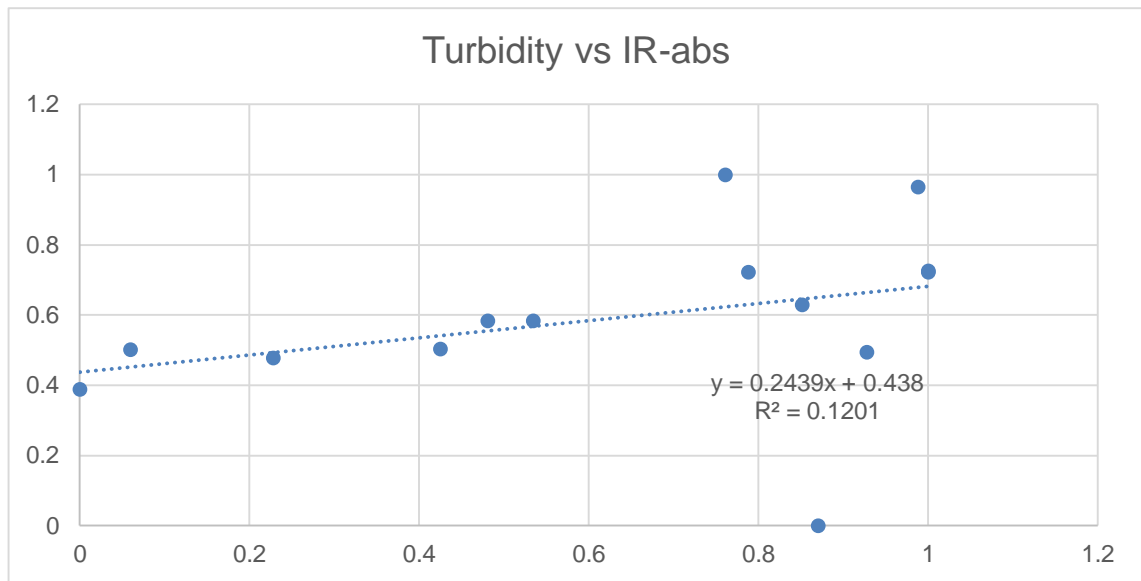


Figure 38: Correlation between Turbidity (lab) and IR-abs (mill)

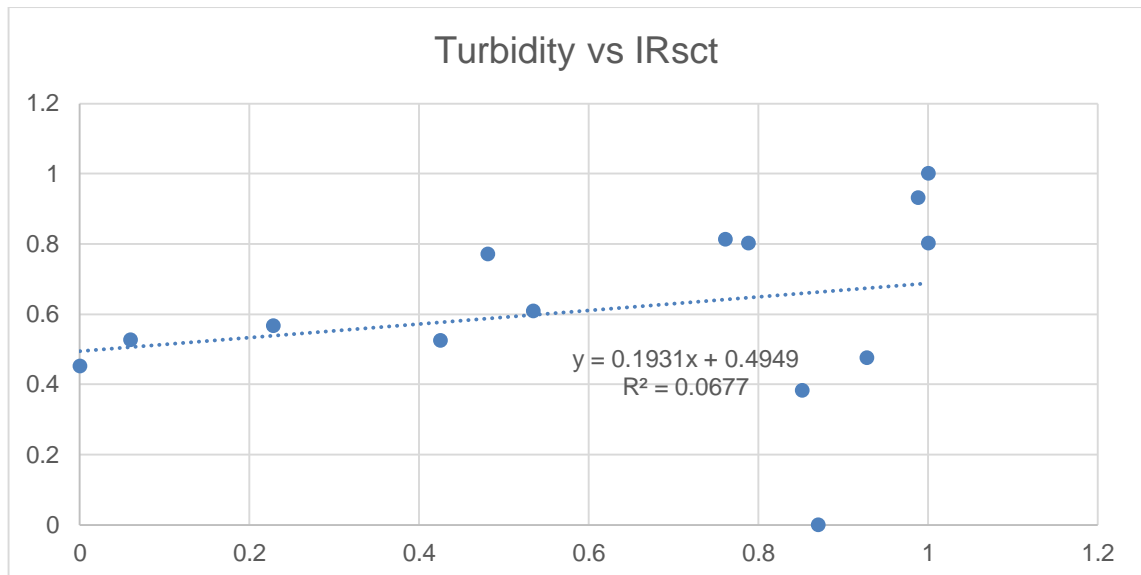


Figure 39: Correlation between Turbidity (lab) and IR-sct (mill)

8 GENERAL OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS

This chapter consists of interesting observations and findings during the study. These findings however require further investigations and studies to draw any significant conclusions.

8.1 Blue color

According to Langis Oy blue color should somehow correlate with the COD or UV-abs of the sample Figure 40 is the normalized comparison of these three parameters. The points are connected with a solid line for easy visual detection of correlation.

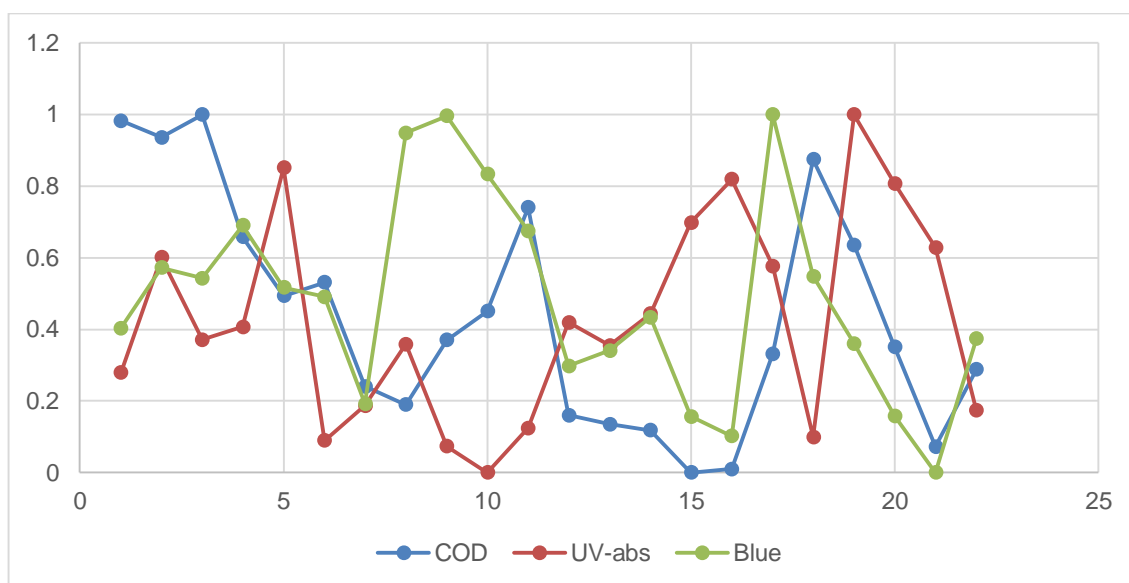


Figure 40: Comparison between COD, UV-abs and Blue

When the parameters were further plotted against each other, a very weak correlation is discovered. The correlation is shown in Figure 41.

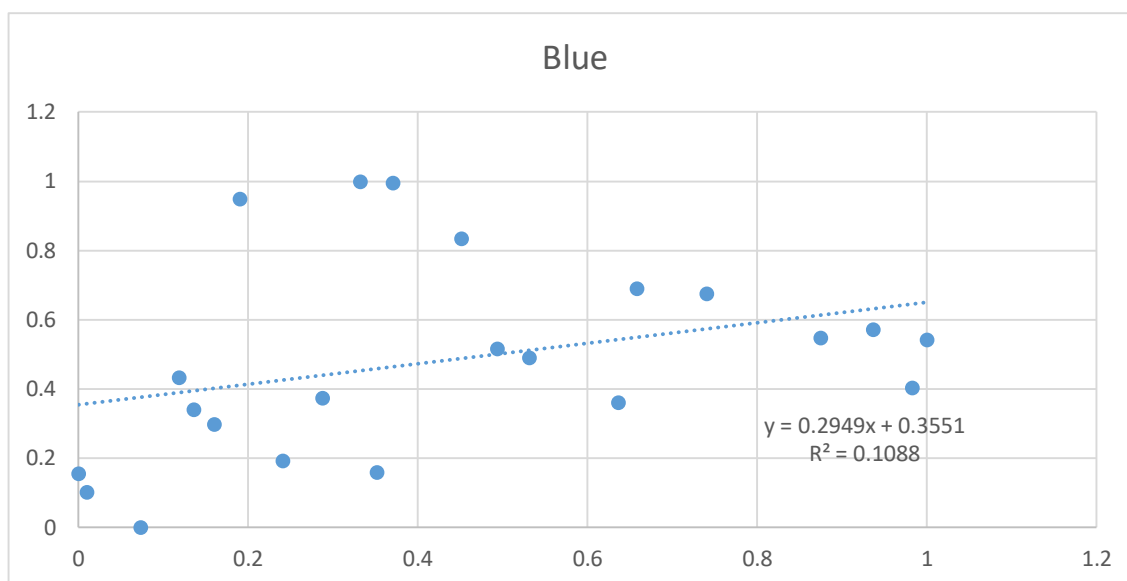


Figure 41: Correlation of Blue color with COD

8.2 Calibration of the prototype

This chapter consists of a study of the samples from the fifth dispatch. All the samples with the respective dilution series are plotted in the same graph to see the precision of the prototype. The data were analyzed by comparing the turbidity with IR-sct. These parameters had nice correlation with each other as mentioned in the previous Chapter 7.3. Moreover, correlation between COD and UV-abs was also analyzed. UV-abs as discussed in the Chapter 7.2 had nice response with respect to the dilution or concentration of the sample.

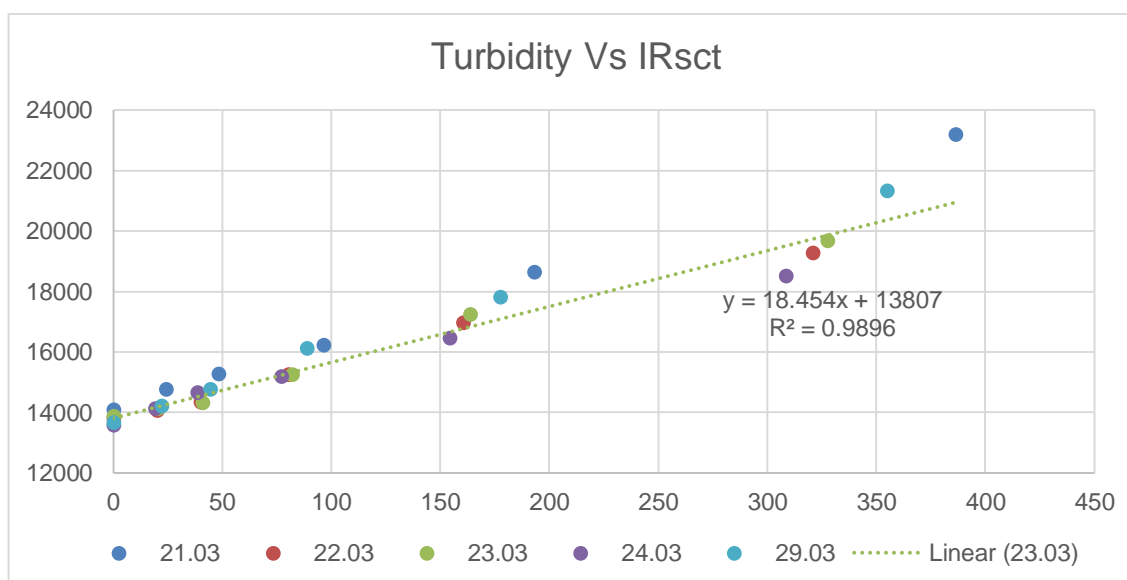


Figure 42: Turbidity vs IR-sct of the samples with dilution series

Figure 42 establishes nice relationship as a degree of dilution and the samples taken during different dates with varying turbidity. There is some kind of effect that causes the diluted samples to deviate from the general relation of each concentration size. This could be because of the particle size or turbidity or color or the optical phenomenon. But the actual reason behind this effect is not known yet. Turbidity range of 300 to 400 NTU could be predicted using prototype for 100% concentration based on the samples taken into consideration.

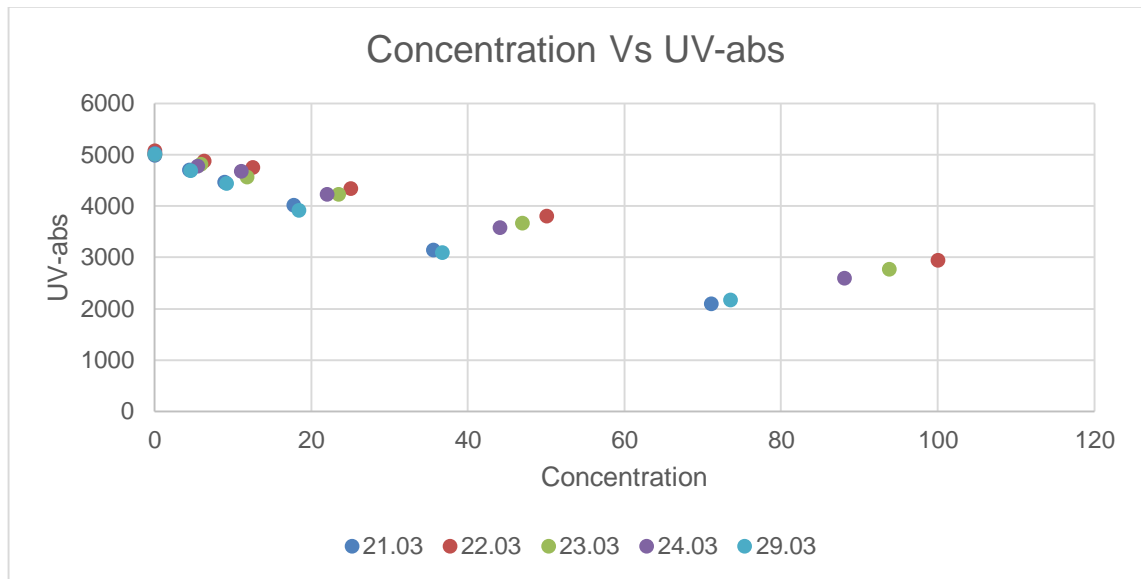


Figure 43: Concentration vs UV-abs of the samples

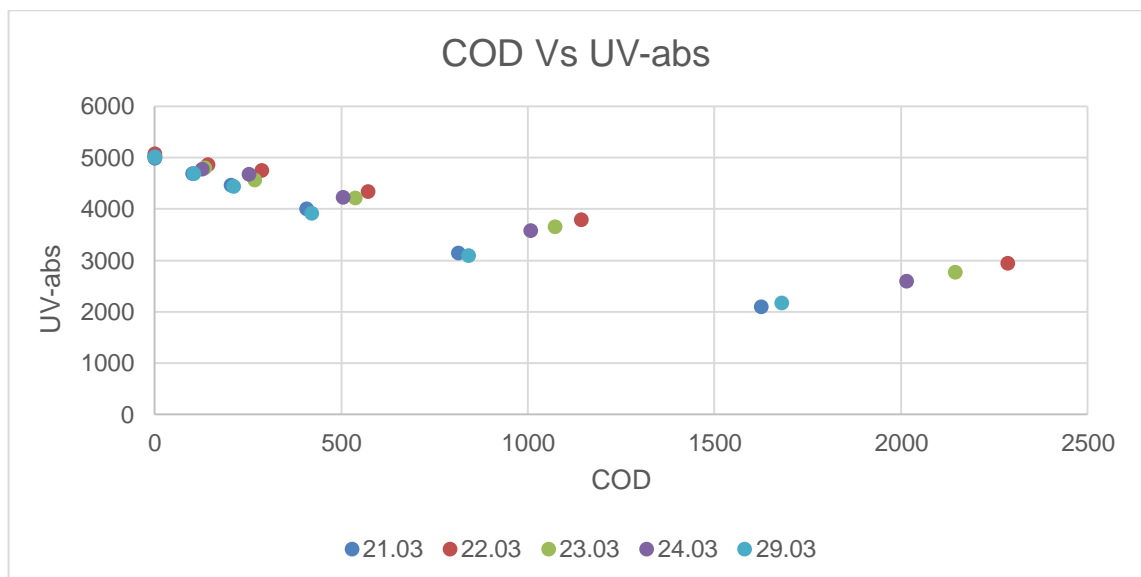


Figure 44: COD vs UV-abs of the samples with dilution series

Figure 43 and Figure 44 also establish good relationship as a degree of dilution with respect to the UV-abs measurement and the samples taken during different dates with varying COD levels. There is also similar kind of effect as mentioned earlier hence the general relation is not established in this case. This effect could be the result of similar but various factors like the particle size, varying COD levels, color and or the optical phenomenon. The actual reason behind this phenomenon is yet to be discovered. COD range between 1500 to 2500 mg/l could be predicted using the prototype for 100% concentration based on the samples taken into consideration.

This data analysis unfolds an important practical issue relating to the calibration of the sensor. Every dilution series has a different linear function compared to a general linear trend representing each concentration. The linear function of 100% concentrated samples deviate from the linear dilution trend. So, the prototype should be calibrated using the samples from different dates but not the dilution series along with laboratory follow up. The calibration might follow some other relationship with IR-abs, turbidity, EC and COD.

8.3 Milk sample analysis

Milk was used during the study in order to check the goodness of the IR-sct measurement. Several concentrations of milk samples were prepared (Table 3). The prototype was responding to every concentration of the milk samples even the laboratory turbidimeter was unable to precisely measure any of the samples prepared. But the result analysis revealed the IR-sct measurement was out of order. Surprisingly IR-abs was working without showing any signs of out scaling. IR-abs measured for the milk sample is shown in Figure 45.

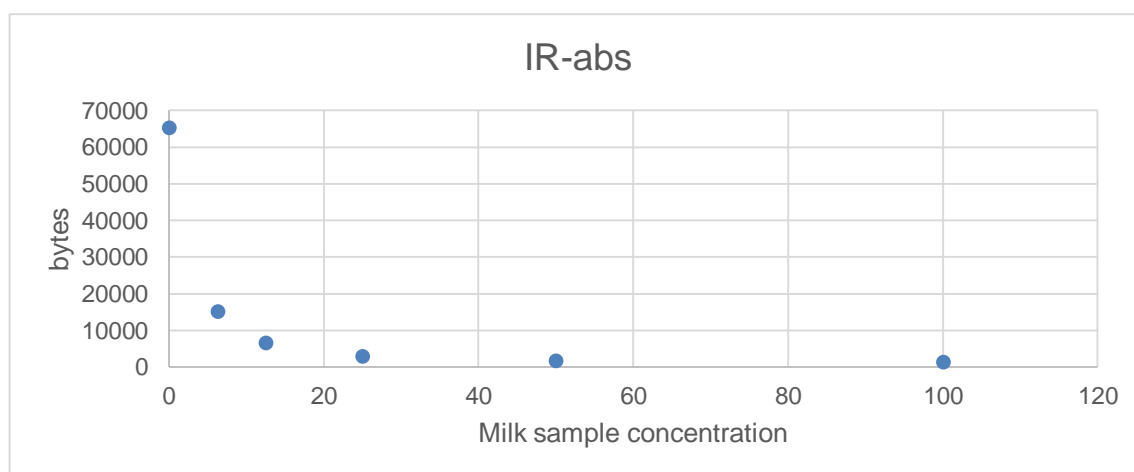


Figure 45: IR-abs observed against milk sample

9 GENERAL DISCUSSION

50 % diluted samples using ion exchanged water were used in the experiments to determine the TSS. This decision was made due to the persistent clogging of the filter paper while using 100 % samples. Similarly, the filter paper was weighed directly without drying in the oven before the filtration. According to the experience of an innovation project team, there was no any difference in the mass of the filter paper with and without drying before the filtration (Jaffry, et al., 2016).

COD analysis was performed for the filtered sample rather than for the original sample. Langis Oy was interested in the COD level due to the presence of the dissolved solids (TDS) rather than the TSS.

Interference of the ambient light during the experimentation was neglected. A test performed in the presence and absence of the ambient light indicated that measurement range for all parameters were higher when the ambient light was cut off. Unlike other parameters color measurement could not be analyzed and estimated based on the dilution pattern. The compact design several LEDS in the same prototype might have some interference in itself.

There was also certain complexity with EC measurement. The prototype had very narrow range of conductivity measurement. Hence, reconfiguring the EC was suggested.

The prototype uses UV radiation of 405 nm for the measurement of UV-abs. However, the spectrophotometric analysis performed in the lab indicates the maximum absorbance for the samples is in between the wavelength of 200 to 400 nm (~300 nm) but not at 405 nm. Spectrophotometric analysis of a sample is shown in Figure 46. The measurement scale of UV-abs in the prototype was opposite compared to the spectrophotometer. Measurement noises were visible in the UV measurement. This could be due to the interference of SS in the sample. The LED for the measurement of UV-abs emits the radiation of wavelength 405 nm. Visible spectrum starts form 400 nm hence the light emitted is in fact a blue light but not a UV radiation.

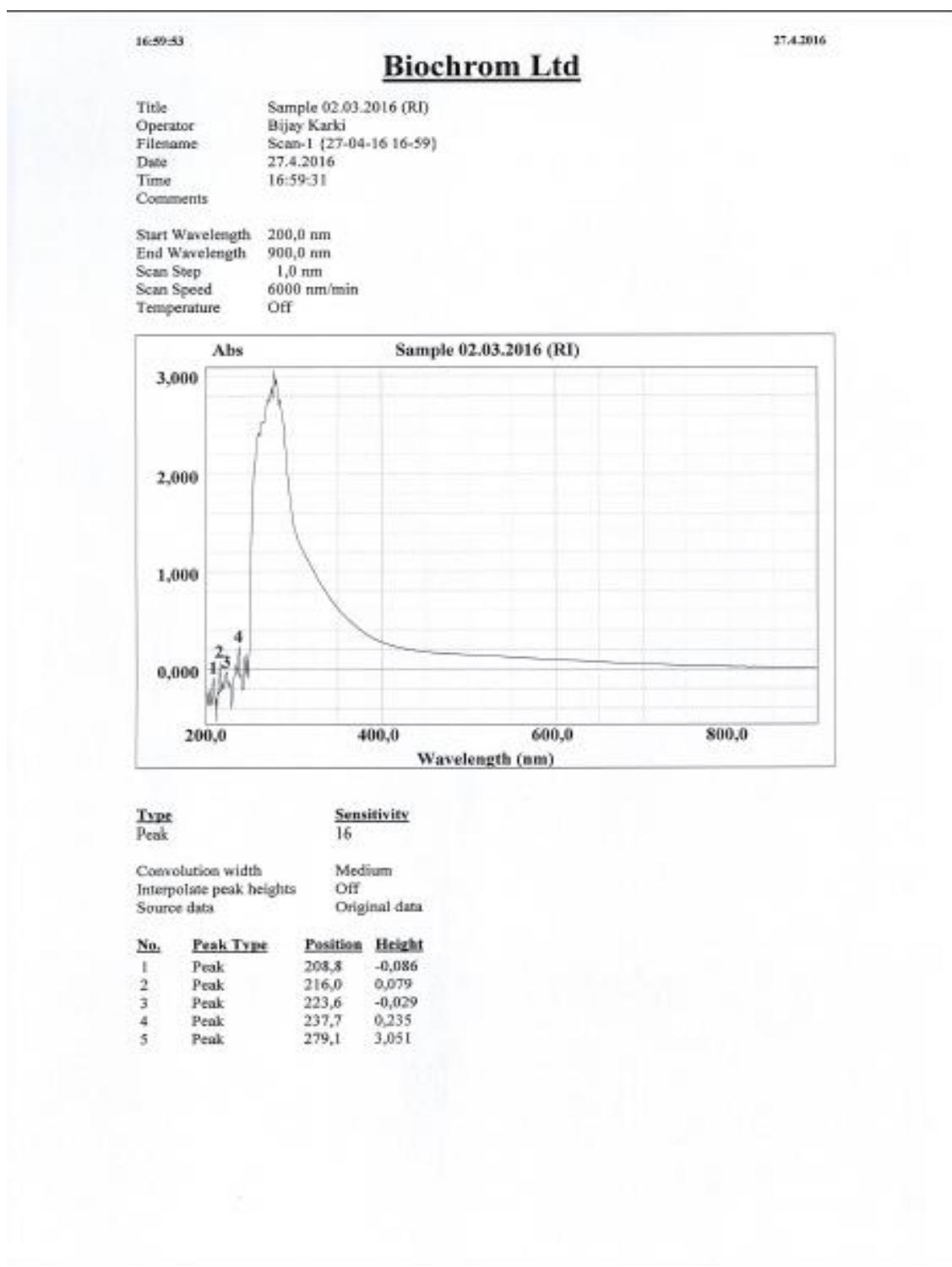


Figure 46: Laboratory spectrophotometric analysis

10 BUDGET

The expenses incurred in this thesis project are presented in this chapter. Only consumable items used are considered as an expense made. Hence, it does not include any equipment borrowed either from Metropolia UAS or Langis Oy.

Table 5: Cost evaluation

Description	Quantity	Amount
Filter paper (0.45 µm)	3 packs	30 €
LCK 514	2 packs	130.2 €
Milk (sample)	1 liter	1.6 €
	Total	161.8 €

Cost of the ion-exchanged water used and the delivery cost of waste water samples to Metropolia by the mill are not included. Hence, the total cost for this thesis sums to 161.8 € in total.

11 CONCLUSION

The aims of this thesis were

- Characterization of waste water samples from the pulp and paper mill using the new prototype manufactured by Langis.
- Comparison of the results with the online data and lab measurements for reliability.
- Monitoring the performance and checking for any flaws in the prototype during the study period.

Similarly, a sub-question of this study was how does the COD correlate with UV-absorbance and IR-absorbance for the given pulp and paper sample?

The results obtained from the thesis project showed, the waste water samples could not be characterized solely using the prototype. Laboratory experiments were performed in order to complete, compare and verify the prototype measurements. All the lab equipment was calibrated as required during this thesis. The results produced from the lab were considered accurate but experimental and systematic errors were neglected. Online measurement from the mill was also compared with the laboratory measurement.

The main findings of this thesis is the correlation between the parameters measured from the samples. The laboratory measurement of the samples confirmed COD and EC had a very good correlation (Figure 21). Similarly, TSS and turbidity also had nice correlation with each other (Figure 22). Response of the prototype was assessed using different samples against varying concentrations. UV-abs and IR-sct measurements had very good response with respect to the dilution series (Figure 15 and Figure 16). In fact, IR-sct correlates very well with the turbidity measurement. UV-abs measurement also had measurement noises, but the calibration curve using the average value produces a linear fit. However, the correlation between UV-abs and COD was very weak. IR-abs and conductivity measurements on the other hand were out of range, hence did not yield proper responses as expected (Figure 17 and Figure 18). IR-abs had too much measurement noise. Similarly, the range of EC measurement was very narrow.

Online control system of the mill should be based on the online measurement of EC, SS and turbidity. These parameters show good correlation among each other and help in estimating the COD level.

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Appendices

Appendix 1. Operational Instructions of the prototype

This is a basic and stepwise description on how to take measurements using the prototype.

1. Raspberry Pi (Raspi) needs a monitor with HDMI and USB input devices (keyboard and mouse).

It is suggested to make all the required connections before connecting to the power source.

2. Raspi operates in five volts (5 V) hence the power should be supplied using an appropriate adapter. The prototype is IP68 rated and can be immersed to water.

After the power connection Raspi starts to boot. This is visible in the screen. Raspi opens without password. After the booting is completed desktop screen appears.

3. When the desktop screen is ready open the terminal window (black icon on the top).

4. Type a command "*sudo idle*" in the terminal window. This command opens the Python editor.

5. In the Python editor click on "File" menu then from the dropdown menu choose "Recent files" and open "*DATALOG3_21.py*".

This opens the codes programmed to run the prototype. (The codes were saved under the file name *DATALOG3_21.py* in this study)

6. When the file opens click on the "Run" menu to run the codes.

7. There will be a visualization screen and a small UI (User Interface).

Visualization screen plots graph from the online measurements. UI gives control to the user to start, pause and stop measurement.

8. Data file is created and stored in the Desktop and is labelled by timestamp.

Whenever the code is started a new data file is generated. The data in the file are stored in CSV (comma separated variables) format. However, without proper internet connection the timestamp might not correspond to the real time.

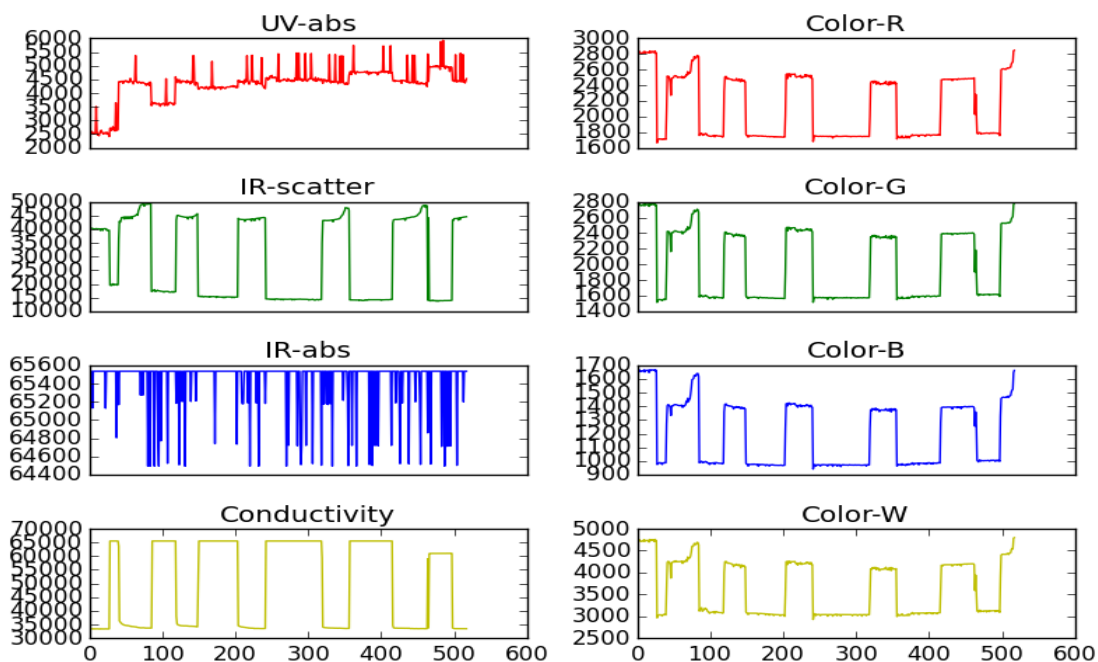
9. The prototype measures UV absorbance, IR scattered, IR absorbance, Conductivity and RGBW (color) spectrum.

10. The data file contains only 9 columns of data; the first column is timestamp while the others are the parameters mentioned in the step 9. The indexes of data columns (UV, IR, Cond, RGBW) are also indicated in the code.

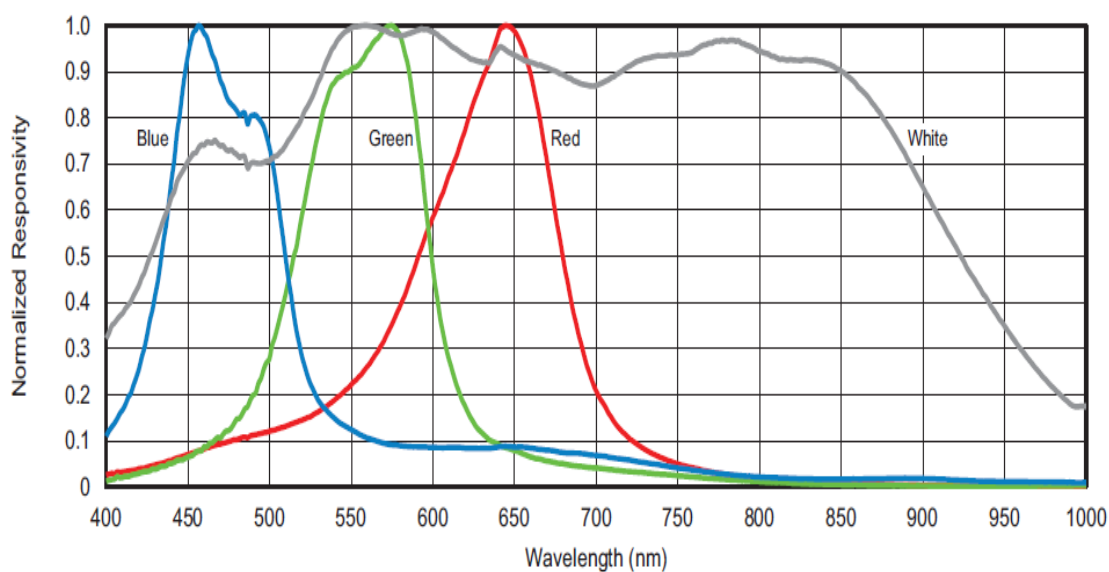
The prototype also measures other parameters since it does a "sweep" with different LED intensities and temperatures of sensor LEDs are also measured. However, these measurements were suppressed in the data file.

11. When all the required measurements are taken, transfer the data file to a USB stick and close the Raspi by typing a command "*sudo halt -p*" in the terminal window.

Appendix 2. An example of online graphical plot for a dilution series



Appendix 3. Response of the color sensor with respect to the wavelength



Appendix 4. Results from laboratory measurements

Following table consists of results from laboratory analysis of the samples. Two replicated samples were used to determine TSS and COD for each sample. While measuring EC and turbidity accuracy of the measuring devices was accessed.

Sample		EC ($\mu\text{S/cm}$)		Turbidity (NTU)		TSS (mg/l)		COD (mg/l)	
Date	Time	Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy	Average	SD	Average	SD
22.02.2016	7:00	3040.0	N/A	435.0	0.5	364.0	N/A	2716.3	16
23.02.2016	7:21	3040.0	N/A	238.3	3.8	288.0	12.0	2659.0	16
23.02.2016	7:24	3180.0	N/A	283.7	2.3	312.0	12.0	2738.3	18
24.02.2016	7:30	3230.0	20.0	389.0	N/A	254.0	22.0	2313.0	201
25.02.2016	7:42	3010.0	N/A	224.0	0.0	228.0	12.0	2108.7	17
26.02.2016	7:41	2720.0	0.0	519.0	1.7	310.0	2.0	2155.3	18
29.02.2016	7:40	2196.7	4.7	339.7	3.7	326.0	12.0	1794.7	201
01.03.2016	7:30	1825.0	17.1	403.3	2.1	306.0	6.0	1731.7	8
02.03.2016	7:45	2290.0	17.0	347.3	0.5	386.0	26.0	1956.0	44
03.03.2016	7:45	2316.7	30.9	406.7	4.2	334.0	6.0	2056.0	20
04.03.2016	7:03	2723.3	17.0	406.7	0.5	328.0	4.0	2415.7	27
15.03.2016	7:45	1786.7	6.5	365.0	2.6	248.0	4.0	1694.3	22
16.03.2016	7:45	1724.3	12.1	245.7	1.7	280.0	6.0	1664.0	11
16.03.2016	7:45	1732.7	18.5	219.7	1.2	268.0	6.0	1642.7	11
17.03.2016	7:38	1784.3	3.7	214.7	1.7	272.0	10.0	1495.7	12
17.03.2016	7:38	1780.0	4.2	261.3	2.1	252.0	10.0	1508.0	12
18.03.2016	7:37	2026.7	12.5	276.3	0.9	240.0	32.0	1907.7	9
21.03.2016	7:35	2856.7	34.9	386.3	0.9	406.0	26.0	2582.3	130
22.03.2016	7:35	3396.7	46.7	143.3	0.5	274.0	2.0	2285.7	38
23.03.2016	7:37	2546.7	34.9	190.3	0.5	230.0	14.0	1932.0	40
24.03.2016	6:23	2273.3	23.6	126.7	0.5	230.0	2.0	1586.0	10
29.03.2016	7:45	2116.7	30.8	370.3	1.7	354.0	14.0	1853.0	43

Appendix 5. Results from prototype measurements

Following table is the result obtained on measuring the samples using the prototype.

Dispatch	Sample	UV-abs (bytes)		IRscat (bytes)		IR-abs (bytes)		Conductivity (bytes)	
		Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy
2nd	22.02.2016	2265.353	418.060	21723.882	205.234	65352.294	394.704	65535.000	0.000
	23.02.2016	2570.474	318.521	20614.842	232.123	65402.316	308.674	63844.105	0.000
	23.02.2016	2353.065	260.723	21303.484	158.432	65420.903	211.301	64497.774	0.000
	24.02.2016	2387.053	239.565	21950.632	227.400	65257.158	559.183	63844.316	0.000
	25.02.2016	2807.234	406.908	20897.714	469.583	65385.130	350.289	65528.247	0.000
	26.02.2016	2086.145	326.916	23611.000	271.756	65398.258	320.291	65535.000	0.000
3rd	29.02.2016	2178.552	229.910	21947.500	275.462	65320.293	360.213	64981.000	0.000
	01.03.2016	2340.813	320.139	23316.625	555.806	65397.094	293.145	65535.000	0.000
	02.03.2016	2070.949	186.927	23684.929	342.527	65221.367	601.985	65452.286	264.949
	03.03.2016	2001.632	231.705	23574.684	139.794	65387.211	173.032	63986.474	0.000
	04.03.2016	2119.052	184.706	23612.052	330.612	65183.138	646.350	64981.017	0.000
4th	15.03.2016	2398.814	190.417	21773.627	222.480	65480.576	198.968	65535.000	0.000
	16.03.2016	2337.694	375.356	23410.111	188.447	65487.361	201.126	65535.000	0.000
	16.03.2016	2421.352	275.975	22927.571	287.866	65426.637	285.019	65535.000	0.000
	17.03.2016	2662.775	283.352	20854.025	186.703	65335.300	378.299	65535.000	0.000
	17.03.2016	2776.750	209.734	19535.063	169.044	65372.583	344.391	65535.000	0.000
	18.03.2016	2547.781	299.690	23793.875	350.836	65353.906	381.631	65535.000	0.000
5th	21.03.2016	2095.618	556.199	23204.059	194.469	61964.735	1127.982	64590.294	0.000
	22.03.2016	2948.000	220.465	19275.840	731.466	65175.360	955.486	65535.000	0.000
	23.03.2016	2765.417	269.905	19686.250	166.894	65474.250	201.485	65535.000	0.000
	24.03.2016	2596.708	211.057	18529.792	134.234	65363.875	320.034	64195.292	0.000
	29.03.2016	2165.939	435.986	21328.212	181.607	62817.515	843.769	65535.000	0.000

Dispatch	Sample	Red (bytes)		Green (bytes)		Blue (bytes)		White (bytes)	
		Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy
2nd	22.02.2016	1675.412	75.280	1551.647	95.739	1017.647	69.540	3047.471	128.021
	23.02.2016	1661.105	54.292	1565.579	64.042	1040.526	46.735	2994.947	90.084
	23.02.2016	1673.161	43.240	1564.484	52.912	1036.548	38.236	3028.935	72.156
	24.02.2016	1727.158	47.209	1602.053	51.996	1056.526	35.865	3167.474	83.172
	25.02.2016	1724.805	44.038	1593.026	47.888	1033.052	33.979	3148.390	79.972
	26.02.2016	1756.403	17.918	1597.710	13.069	1029.565	5.830	3231.548	40.894
3rd	29.02.2016	1620.431	5.468	1502.707	6.139	988.948	4.468	2905.759	11.474
	01.03.2016	1959.719	53.603	1749.063	58.123	1091.688	48.310	3483.125	118.584
	02.03.2016	1791.204	27.799	1662.010	32.609	1098.133	23.238	3277.133	47.459
	03.03.2016	1776.053	60.777	1643.526	74.976	1076.053	54.463	3253.579	105.124
	04.03.2016	1771.724	37.219	1623.172	43.983	1054.517	32.758	3250.879	61.162
4th	15.03.2016	1696.203	9.074	1547.695	11.191	1003.339	6.617	3125.508	18.861
	16.03.2016	1710.528	12.835	1554.722	10.112	1009.111	6.022	3208.194	24.719
	16.03.2016	1729.890	49.028	1577.637	58.092	1021.725	43.023	3253.407	84.072
	17.03.2016	1642.525	9.992	1508.975	8.601	984.100	6.090	3040.675	22.536
	17.03.2016	1621.479	5.212	1494.813	6.040	976.771	4.736	2972.396	15.008
	18.03.2016	1942.438	24.784	1750.406	20.006	1098.625	10.334	3685.875	49.863
5th	21.03.2016	1758.912	80.280	1597.824	89.007	1037.324	63.751	3102.471	130.852
	22.03.2016	1734.040	26.741	1581.240	27.775	1011.840	20.291	3044.320	43.127
	23.03.2016	1709.417	4.821	1547.000	5.000	984.417	3.989	3029.750	10.117
	24.03.2016	1627.917	6.3365	1486.958	5.754591	962.875	3.836941	2900.750	14.31881
	29.03.2016	1708.485	144.4899	1567.152	167.7048	1013.667	124.2797	3043.091	238.2661

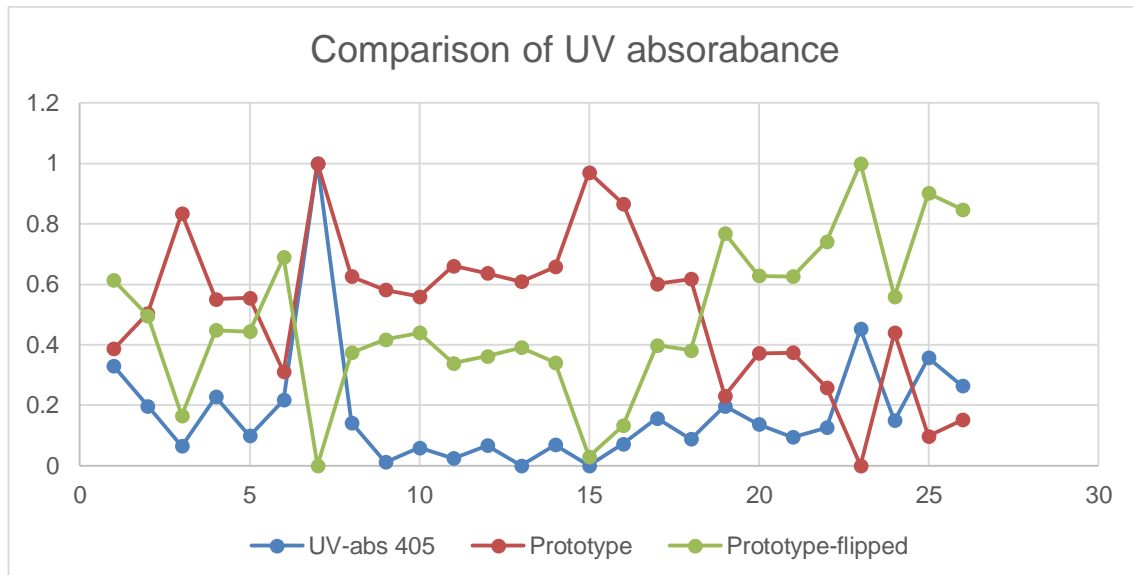
Appendix 6. Online data from the mill

The raw data received from the company was processed and converted into the following format. Since a cleaning system was installed in the mill, data was restricted to the following selection.

Dispatch	Sample		UV-abs (bytes)		IR-abs (bytes)		IR-sct (bytes)	
	Date	Time	Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy	Average	Accuracy
3rd	29.02	7:40	2512.75	133.22	20944.75	179.93	1191.50	114.07
	1.03	7:30	2335.75	168.12	20470.00	264.59	1272.50	46.71
	2.03	7:45	2735.75	242.11	18166.50	414.84	1185.75	172.75
	3.03	7:45	2625.50	311.56	17088.50	858.10	1184.25	132.84
	4.03	7:03	2702.75	504.08	17132.50	266.26	1319.25	84.28
4th	15.03	7:45	2338.75	262.61	15790.75	521.62	897.75	196.51
	16.03	7:45	2509.00	84.17	14029.75	217.14	994.50	50.55
	17.03	7:38	2577.00	90.18	15133.75	100.72	1163.25	15.61
	18.03	7:37	2368.75	22.25	15131.25	117.76	1052.25	59.47
5th	21.03	7:35	3027.75	789.11	13900.75	168.71	961.00	385.83
	22.03	7:35	2339.25	158.40	13987.75	286.23	996.50	242.21
	23.03	7:37	2337.50	72.36	13676.75	51.62	1023.25	77.06
	24.03	6:23	2308.75	191.01	12411.00	231.11	945.50	104.07
	29.03	7:45	3283.75	160.63	6990.00	44.81	637.75	25.93

Appendix 7. UV-abs comparison between lab device and prototype

This comparison includes all samples analyzed for this purpose.



Appendix 8. Quality certificate, LCK514 (100-2000 mg/l COD)

Quality certificate Technical data for Validation of LCK514 (100-2000 mg/l COD)

Quality certificate

Technical data for cuvette test LCK514

Sensitivity	0.0005 Abs./(mg/l)
Ordinate intersect	0.082 Abs.
Residual standard deviation	0.0017 Abs.
Method variation coefficient	0.33 %
Method standard deviation	3.5 mg/l
Confidence intervall (95%)	± 8.7 mg/l

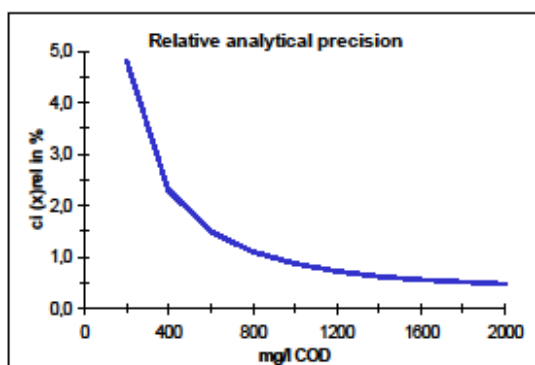
The technical data for cuvette test LCK514 were determined in conformity with ISO 8466-1 and DIN 38402 A51 „Calibration of analysis methods“.

The series of the smallest and largest calibration standards exhibit normal distribution and are outlier- and trend-free.
The calibration gives a linear function.

Technical data in conformity with DIN 32645

Detection limit	4.6 mg/l
Quantitation limit	13.7 mg/l

The detection and the quantitation limits were determined in conformity with DIN 32645.



Result	Confidence intervall (95%)
400 mg/l	± 9.3 mg/l
800 mg/l	± 8.8 mg/l
1200 mg/l	± 8.7 mg/l
1600 mg/l	± 9.0 mg/l
2000 mg/l	± 9.6 mg/l

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Appendix 9. Python codes programmed to run the prototype

Python codes used to run the prototype is attached in the following screen shots.

```

1  #!/usr/bin/python
2  -*-coding: utf-8 -*-
3
4  from Tkinter import *
5  import serial, time, datetime
6  import urllib, urllib
7  import sys
8  import ftplib
9  import re
10 import pylab
11 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
12 import matplotlib.gridspec as gridspec
13
14 plt.ion()
15
16 start = time.time()
17
18 port = serial.Serial('/dev/ttyAMA0', 115200, timeout = 2) #portin lukuparametrit: portti, baudinopeus, timeout
19
20 port.flushInput()
21
22 x = 0
23
24 count = 0
25
26 x_data = []
27
28 y_data = []
29
30 y1_data = []
31
32 y2_data = []
33
34 y3_data = []
35
36 c_data = []
37
38 r_data = []
39
40 g_data = []
41
42 b_data = []
43
44 w_data = []
45
46 fname_str = ""
47
48 meascount = 0
49
50
51 def writetofile(logdata):
52     global meascount
53
54     meascount +=1
55
56     if(meascount==1):
57         filetowrite()
58
59     if(meascount > 4500):
60         meascount = 0
61         reset_graph()
62

```

```

63
64     f = open(fname_str, 'a')
65     f.write(logdata)
66     f.closed
67
68     def filetowrite():
69
70         global fname_str
71
72         ts = time.time()
73         fname = datetime.datetime.fromtimestamp(ts).strftime('%Y-%m-%d %H-%M-%S')
74         fname_str = '/home/pi/Desktop/{0}.txt'.format(fname)
75
76
77     def parsedata():
78         datavec = []
79         data = port.readline().rstrip()
80         data_ = data.split()
81         data_1 = data_[0].split(":")
82         datavec.append(data_1[0])
83         datavec.append(int(data_1[1],16))
84
85         for n in range(1, len(data_)):
86             datavec.append(int(data_[n],16))
87
88         return datavec
89
90
91     def reset_graph():
92         global x_data, y_data, y1_data, y2_data, y3_data, c_data, r_data, g_data, b_data, w_data, x, count
93         x_data = []
94
95         y_data = []
96         y1_data = []
97         y2_data = []
98         y3_data = []
99         c_data = []
100        r_data = []
101        g_data = []
102        b_data = []
103        w_data = []
104        x = 0
105        count = 0
106
107
108    def draw_ALL():
109        global x_data, y_data, y1_data, y2_data, y3_data, c_data, r_data, g_data, b_data, w_data
110
111        plt.figure(1)
112
113        plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(0,0))
114        plt.plot(x_data,y1_data, color = 'r')
115        plt.title('UV-abs')
116        plt.xticks([])
117
118        plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(0,1))
119        plt.plot(x_data,r_data, color = 'r')
120        plt.title('Color-R')
121        plt.xticks([])
122
123        plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(1,0))
124        plt.plot(x_data,y2_data, color = 'g')

```

```

125 plt.title('IR-scatter')
126 plt.xticks([])
127
128 plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(1,1))
129 plt.plot(x_data,g_data, color = 'g')
130 plt.title('Color-G')
131 plt.xticks([])
132
133 plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(2,0))
134 plt.plot(x_data,y3_data, color = 'b')
135 plt.title('IR-abs')
136 plt.xticks([])
137
138 plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(2,1))
139 plt.plot(x_data,b_data, color = 'b')
140 plt.title('Color-B')
141 plt.xticks([])
142
143 plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(3,0))
144 plt.plot(x_data,c_data, color = 'y')
145 plt.title('Conductivity')
146
147 plt.subplot2grid((4,2),(3,1))
148 plt.plot(x_data,w_data, color = 'y')
149 plt.title('Color-W')
150
151
152 plt.tight_layout()
153 plt.draw()
154 plt.show()
155 master.after(100, draw_ALL)

```

```

157 #29 = conductivity = y3_data
158 #34 IR Scatter
159 #42 IR ABS
160 #50 UV ABS
161
162 def data_organize():
163
164     datavec = []
165
166     Index = 0
167
168     rowReady = False
169
170     while rowReady==False:
171
172         data = parsedata()
173
174         rowIndex = data[0]
175
176         if(rowIndex=="0"):
177             Index = 0
178         if(rowIndex=="1"):
179             Index = 9
180         if(rowIndex=="2"):
181             Index = 18
182         if(rowIndex=="3"):
183             Index = 27
184         if(rowIndex=="4"):
185             Index = 36
186         if(rowIndex=="5"):
187             Index = 45

```

```

188         if(rowIndex=="6"):
189             Index = 54
190         if(rowIndex=="7"):
191             Index = 63
192         if(rowIndex=="8"):
193             Index = 72
194         if(rowIndex=="I"):
195             Index = 81
196         if(rowIndex=="9"):
197             Index = 90
198
199         # print(Index)
200
201         for n in range(1, len(data)):
202             datavec.insert((n + Index), data[n])
203
204         if(Index==90):
205             rowReady = True
206
207         # datavec.append(datetime.datetime.fromtimestamp(time.time()).strftime('%Y-%m-%d %H-%M-%S'))
208
209         return datavec
210
211     def measRecord():
212
213         #29 = conductivity = y3_data
214         #34 IR Scatter
215         #42 IR ABS
216         #50 UV ABS
217
218         s = ","
219
220         data = data_organize()
221
222         global x_data, y_data, y1_data, y2_data, y3_data, c_data, r_data, g_data, b_data, w_data, count, x
223
224         count +=1
225
226         if(count > 3):
227
228             x = x+1
229
230             y_data.append(data[1])
231
232             y1_data.append(data[50]) # UV-abs
233
234             y2_data.append(data[34]) # IR-scatter
235
236             y3_data.append(data[42]) # IR-abs
237
238             c_data.append(data[29]) # Conductivity (resistance)
239
240             r_data.append(data[72]) # R
241
242             g_data.append(data[73]) # G
243
244             b_data.append(data[74]) # B
245
246             w_data.append(data[75]) # W
247
248             x_data.append(x)
249

```

```

250         data_string = s.join(str(e) for e in data)
251
252         ts = time.time()
253         ts_ = datetime.datetime.fromtimestamp(ts).strftime('%Y-%m-%d %H-%M-%S')
254
255         writetofile(ts_ + "," + data_string + "\n")
256
257         b.config(text="Recording")
258
259         master.after(5, measRecord)
260
261
262     master = Tk()
263     master.wm_title('DATALOG')
264
265     b = Label(master, text = "Not recording")
266     b.pack()
267
268     c = Button(master, width = 20, text="START RECORDING", command=measRecord)
269     c.pack()
270
271     d = Button(master, width = 20, text="STOP PROGRAM", command=master.destroy)
272     d.pack()
273
274     draw_ALL()
275
276     master.mainloop()
277
278
279
280

```